

## EEC chiefs protest in Washington

Three EEC commissioners descend on Washington tomorrow to protest at American steel producers for alleged dumping. American officials will no doubt draw the commissioners' attention to growing protectionism, not only by the EEC as a whole but by individual member states against one another. Page 5

## Tougher rules on fines sought

Tougher sanctions involving more use of the threat of imprisonment to enforce payment of fines are sought by the Judicial Clerks Society, which is disappointed that no provision for stiffer fines procedure has been made in the Criminal Justice Bill. Page 2

## Thais capture warlord's den

Thai Government forces have captured a prosperous town built and run by an opium warlord in the Golden Triangle five miles from the Burmese frontier. The strongly-built brick houses and shops contrast with the bamboo shacks of neighbouring villages. Page 6

## MP likely to win reselection fight

Mr Benjamin Ford, Labour MP for Bradford, North, is likely to win his appeal today against the selection of a Militant Tendency supporter to replace him as the party's prospective candidate for the next general election. Page 2

## Closure threat to art gallery

The closure of Manchester City Art Gallery is being considered by council officials in the latest round of spending reductions. The gallery's 2,000 oils and 5,000 watercolours would go into storage. Page 2

## BL may halt trucks funding

EL could decide to hold investment in its new range of light trucks when the board meets this week for the first time since strikes began at Leyland commercial vehicle plants. Page 11

## Security talks' fate in balance

European foreign ministers are gathering in Madrid for the first session of the security review conference since Christmas. But an East-West confrontation over the imposition of martial law in Poland could turn it into the final session after 15 months of debate. Page 4

## Deng retirement arouses fears

Mr Deng Xiaoping's retirement from an active role in China has surprised observers of Chinese affairs and caused concern about the country's future. Opposition to his liberalizing policies has been growing among senior military commanders and bureaucrats. Page 4

## Another gold

June Craft ended the Arena swimming meeting in Paris with her fourth gold medal. The British squad ended with six gold medals. Page 15

Leader page, 9  
Letters: On the rail strikes, from Mr T. R. Thomas, and others; EEC Budget, from Mr Robert Jackson, MEP; conserving the countryside, from Mr Derek Barber

Leading articles: Privatisation; El Salvador

Features, pages 5 and 8  
Why the SDP is backing Mr Tebbit's bad Bill; Ian Bradley says you cannot keep the middle classes down; the lead in petrol poisoning our children; profile of James Prior

Obituary, page 10  
Mr Peter Opie, Mr Ernest Eader

# Reagan slashes welfare as budget deficit soars

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Feb 7

President Reagan has sent "benefiting the rich at the expense of the poor". The new budget would affect all the main programmes for the poor including food stamps, welfare payments, housing assistance, and food programmes for mothers on welfare with small children.

Announcing his intention "to stay the course", Mr Reagan admitted his prescription of even steeper cuts in social programmes is bitter medicine; but he said Congress and the American people must swallow it to avert the greater ill of "destructive inflation and financial disorder".

The new budget for the year beginning in October calls for spending of \$75,600m and expected revenue of \$66,000m, which would result in a deficit of \$91,500m. It calls for an 18 per cent increase in defence spending to finance the biggest peacetime military build-up in history.

The size of the projected deficits and the prospect of continuing high interest rates sent shudders through Republicans, but elicited more predictable responses from Democrats. Under Mr Reagan's projections, the deficit would drop only slightly to \$83,000m in fiscal 1984 and to \$72,000m in 1985.

Mr Ted Stevens, the assistant Republican leader in the Senate, said he "was in a state of shock" while listening to the budget forecasts at a special briefing for Congressmen last Friday.

Mr Robert Dole, Republican chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said: "I do not think it is a clear enough signal that we mean business about reducing the deficit".

Almost immediately, Democratic leaders said they would propose an alternative budget, deflating the Reagan tax cuts totalling \$750,000m over the next five years and changing the pattern of spending cuts possibly to include defence.

If Congress approved all that Mr Reagan asks, government spending for most programmes excluding defence would be cut by 16.5 per cent next year, and even more taking into account inflation.

The effect of the cuts would be about three times greater than the Reagan budget reductions last year, which generated a fierce debate over the Administration's intentions. Critics described them as

US reaction, page 11  
Interest rates impact, page 13

## Alliance to have one leader for election

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Social Democrats and the Liberals have agreed to go into the next general election with one leader of the alliance, an MP, who would become Prime Minister in the event of an alliance victory.

The undoubted favourite for the post will be Mr Roy Jenkins, who is campaigning for a return to parliament in the Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, announced the agreement yesterday following a two-day joint discussion between the party leaders at Kidlington Hall in Oxfordshire.

He said in an interview on the BBC radio World this weekend: "There is no doubt that we were the supposed contenders, sitting around discussing perfectly reasonably among ourselves how best we should proceed. And what we did agree on, and this was a unanimous view, was that we cannot go into the election with two party leaders, saying: 'Well, whichever gets the larger number of seats is to be the Prime Minister'."

Mr Steel said that option had been debated and had now been ruled out. He explained: "What that means is that when the SDP have decided who their leader is going to be, which they will do this year, we will then put our heads together and decide, and tell the electorate long before the election who, in the event of our forming a government, would in fact lead that government."

It appeared last night that the alliance leader would be chosen by the leaderships of the two parties, without formal consultation with party members. And it was suggested that the joint leader, or chairman, need not necessarily be a leader of either party; a suggestion which would keep Mr Jenkins firmly in the running even if he were not returned as the MP for Glasgow, Hillhead, and even if he failed to beat Mrs Shirley Williams, for the SDP leadership this autumn.

One major implication of the Kiddington Hall agreement is that the leadership will not now be determined by the random factor of parliamentary seats won by each party at the general election.

Mrs Williams said yesterday: "We regard that very much as a lottery". She also

SDP and Tebbit's Bill, page 3



Investigating the mystery of cot deaths: A baby's heart and breathing rhythm is recorded by Dr Elliot Shinebourne at Brompton Hospital, London, during trials aimed at preventing cot deaths. (Report, page 2).

## The freight business BR may not win back

By Michael Baily  
Transport Correspondent

The train drivers' strike is inflicting a deep and lasting wound on British Rail, but hurting its customers far less, the latest surveys show.

Most at risk after four weeks' mounting damage are freight business and the rural passenger lines.

The latter—the 3,000 miles in Scotland, Wales and other country areas, which

successive governments have

declared almost sacrosanct—

must now be regarded as highly

vulnerable when the time

comes for an inevitable strategy

review by BR and the Department of Transport.

As a BR spokesman said

yesterday: "How can the

Government go on claiming

that these lines are kept open

because they are indispensable,

when the past month has shown

clearly that they are not?"

Even commuters were managing,

he added, "and they are

supposed to be our captive

customers".

But if branch line closures

are the most politically sensitive,

BR itself is more concerned

about the effect of the

strike on the "commercial

railway", Inter-City passenger

and freight business.

In particular, it is worried

about the huge loss of freight

traffic—at £20m to £25m more

than the total in the past

four weeks—which it thinks

will be far harder to win back

than Inter-City passengers.

Road hauliers have leapt in

to serve rail's best freight

customers. In many cases they

have demanded, and won, a

year's contract to handle the

strike-bound traffic.

Worst hit has been general

merchandise, grain, food and

drink, steel products, which

under the brand name Speedlink

competes most directly

with lorries and which BR has

been seeing as its key growth

area for the future.

Around 80 per cent of the

fast overnight Speedlink busi-

ness has been lost so far, and

the Associated Society of Loco-

otive Engineers and Firemen

now expect a further 10 per cent

loss in the next few weeks.

Those attending the meeting

at Kiddington Hall, the coun-

try home of a prominent

Liberal peer, apart from the

SDP Gang of Four and Mr

Steel, included Mr John

Roper, the SDP MP, and

SDP MP Mr Alan Beith.

Mr Cyril Smith, Mr Richard

Weinwright, Mr David Pen-

hallion and Mr Russell John-

son.

Mr Steel also disclosed yes-

terday that it had been agreed

to force the pace of local con-

sultations on the allocation of

parliamentary seats between the

parties.

Mr Steel said yesterday that

the latest opinion poll, reflect-

ing a slump of alliance support

from 44 per cent last Novem-

ber to 34 per cent last week,

according to a Market and

Opinion Research International

(Moris) survey published in the

Sunday Times, was in part a

reflection of the need to com-

plete the process of seat allo-

cation.

Yesterday's poll gave the

alliance 34 per cent compared

with 33 per cent for the Con-

servatives and 31 per cent for

Labour, with 2 per cent for

others, and 1 per cent for Mr

Steel.

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## Over-busy pub sells pasties at its peril

From Our Correspondent  
Exeter

The landlord of the Royal Oak at Meavy, on Dartmoor, has been told to cut his trade because he is too successful. Burrow Parva Parish Council, which owns the inn, has given Mr John Shortridge a list of measures for reducing business before his lease can be renewed, because some local people have complained about the level of activity.

Mr Shortridge said: "It is silly. The council are cutting their own throats because the more cash we take over the bar, the more rent is paid to them."

The Royal Oak is no exception to other pubs. We have very quiet times, especially during the winter. We have six hectic weeks in the summer but I would not call that over-successful. It is just one or two residents complaining."

The Parish Council's recommendations are: To serve west Country pasties only between May and October; to stop Mrs Des Shortridge from putting her food on sale to customers; to ban the landlord from playing instruments other than piano; to stop people sitting outside the public house by removing the chairs; and to force customers to drink only inside the building.

Mr Shortridge said: "I have told the council in no uncertain terms: I will not run the pub's trade down."

Mr Nicholas Waterhouse, one of the parish councillors, said: "The proposals are long-term measures designed to reduce the present gross over-crowding at the inn."

The rates in Horbling, Lincolnshire, are going down because they are being offset by most of the annual rental from the Plough Inn, which is owned by the parish council. It will serve the 420 population an average of £5 a head. (Our Peterborough Correspondent writes.)

## CRE instructs companies not to discriminate

By Lucy Hodges

The Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) has issued formal notices against six organizations, including Massey Ferguson, Rank Leisure Services and the Prestige Group, instructing them not to discriminate. The six organizations under investigation are, in turn, taking the commission to court to challenge the non-discrimination notices issued against them.

These details are given in a confidential 17-page memorandum which the CRE has sent to the Home Office and which amounts to a strong rebuttal of much of a report by an all-party of MPs last year, which was strongly critical of the commission. In its report, the Commons Home Affairs Committee was scathing about the commission's work on formal investigations into organizations for possible racial discrimination, accusing it of chasing "small fry" and of being slow to complete its reports.

In its formal response to the Home Office, the commission accepts some of the criticism and says it is carrying out another review into procedures as a result of the report. But it points out that delay is caused by companies or other bodies it is investigating who then sue the CRE.

The Birmingham Area Health Authority is also appealing against a non-discrimination notice issued by the commission in the course of a formal investigation.

The CRE's greatest blow in the courts came last year in a case brought by Hillingdon council in west London which was upheld by Lord Denning. It has meant that the commission has had to stop seven of its investigations and resume with new terms of reference.

The inquiries it is having to restart include one into

## Record sum given to renovate theatre

By Christopher Warman  
Arts Correspondent

A grant of £600,000 over the next five years is to be made to the Grand Theatre, Swansea, by the Arts Council towards the cost of improving facilities. That is the largest grant made by the council under its Housing the Arts scheme and is one of a series being given to help to renovate regional theatres.

In its paper to the Home Office the commission says that in more than five years in existence, it has published reports on 13 investigations and completed inquiries into 17 more. The select committee said the commission had finished only 10 out of 45 investigations by last spring.

The CRE rehearses many of the objections which it made when the MPs' report was published in December. It is understood that Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, shares some of the commission's views and last week made it clear to a delegation of senior trade unionists that aspects of the report were "unfairly critical" of the commission.

Senior CRE officials believe the Home Office will not accept the MPs' recommendations on the ending of the power of the commission to make a chief executive now filled by blacks, of that the commission should be shorn of its grant-giving powers.

The commission has told the Home Office that the select committee completely misunderstood some aspects of its work, particularly the relationship between law enforcement and the promotion of good race relations.

It says that if its promotional work was confined solely to matters arising directly out of investigations, as the committee proposed, it would be neglecting an important duty imposed on it by the Race Relations Act. It would, for example, not be able to undertake the work it does with the police, education authorities and business organizations.

### Research council cuts: 1

## Unseen effect of cash pruning

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

More than a year ago Mrs Margaret Thatcher proudly told an all-party parliamentary and scientific committee that the Government's spending on research was "protected from the round of public spending cuts. Today, research workers in universities and subsequent actions suggest she has reneged on that commitment.

The issue is rapidly coming to a head in the wake of cutbacks made by the Universities Grant Committee. Those cuts have mostly been discussed in terms of the impact on the numbers of students and academic staff. The effect the cuts have in undermining research has received less attention.

Research in universities is only 14 per cent of the total money spent by the Government on research. More than £3,500m of government money was divided between research on defence (£200m); to promote industrial growth (£118m); on health (£50m); and on other activities like energy communications and public transport.

The amount devoted directly to pure research in universities was about £200m last year. The money comes from the £478m allocated through Parliament as the Science Vote. That is shared between five research coun-

cils; the Science and Engineering Research Council, Natural Environment Research Council, Medical Research Council, Agricultural Research Council and the Social Sciences Research Council.

There are marked differences in the way each council is suffering from the economic squeeze. The science and engineering, natural environment and medical research councils are vulnerable for special reason, even though their budget allocations have at least been held static. The grants those organizations award to university scientists are only part of the research story. Academic research in Britain relies on a unique scheme known as the dual support system.

Under that arrangement, universities are expected to provide from general funds, coming from the University Grants Committee, an equipment grant for the "floor" of research facilities. That means, literally, the floor space and essential laboratory apparatus needed. The research councils provide the money for specific projects.

Between the two, academics should have the conditions to teach well and conduct first class research. But before the cuts, the

### NEWS IN SUMMARY

#### Seamen's health survey

A large-scale study of the health of crews working on merchant ships has been commissioned by British shipowners in cooperation with seafarers' unions (Our Labour Editor writes). The survey, to be carried out by the TUC Centenary Institute of Occupations Health, has been prompted by statistics suggesting that seafarers may be more vulnerable to illness and early death than people in many other occupations.

About one in 50 of Britain's 60,000 merchant seamen and officers will be asked to fill in a questionnaire and undergo a physical examination. The results will be compared with known statistics for the general population.

#### Pensioners are led to safety

More than 50 pensioners were led to safety when fire broke out at an old people's home in Balsall, Birmingham, yesterday. No one was hurt, but some people had to spend the rest of the night on makeshift mattresses as firemen damped down the roof blazes, believed to have been caused by a fault in the heating system. The home was not badly damaged.



All quiet on the western line: Mr Arthur Nayler and his wife, Una, who live in the closed station at Little Kimble, on the still used London-Aylesbury route, enjoying the peace of a strike.

## Miles of woodlands go quietly for sale

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

More than a hundred woodlands, with a combined area of almost 20 square miles, have quietly been put up for sale since the Government began its sale of state forest land last November. Very few of

the woods have been advertised and only seven lots have so far been sold on the open market, though the Government and the commission refuse to name prices and buyers.

The seven include almost four square miles of Lochar Moss, forest with commercial peat extraction, in Dumfries

and Galloway. That was bought by a single purchaser and represents the Government's most successful effort so far at raising money by selling state forest land.

The sale of the two-square-mile Stain Forest, in County Durham, collapsed last year after the Forestry Commission believed that it had been concluded. The commission hopes that it will succeed in selling the property this year.

The campaign to raise £10m a year by selling woods owned by the commission has been condemned by the

not to sell woods of exceptional scenic and scientific interest without heed to the needs of the forestry industry. Ministers see it as a means of reducing the burden of state forestry on public funds.

More than 20 woodlands with a combined area of about five square miles, have been sold back to the private landowners from whom the commission bought them. Some of those lots have not been advertised on the open market.

The commission has agreed

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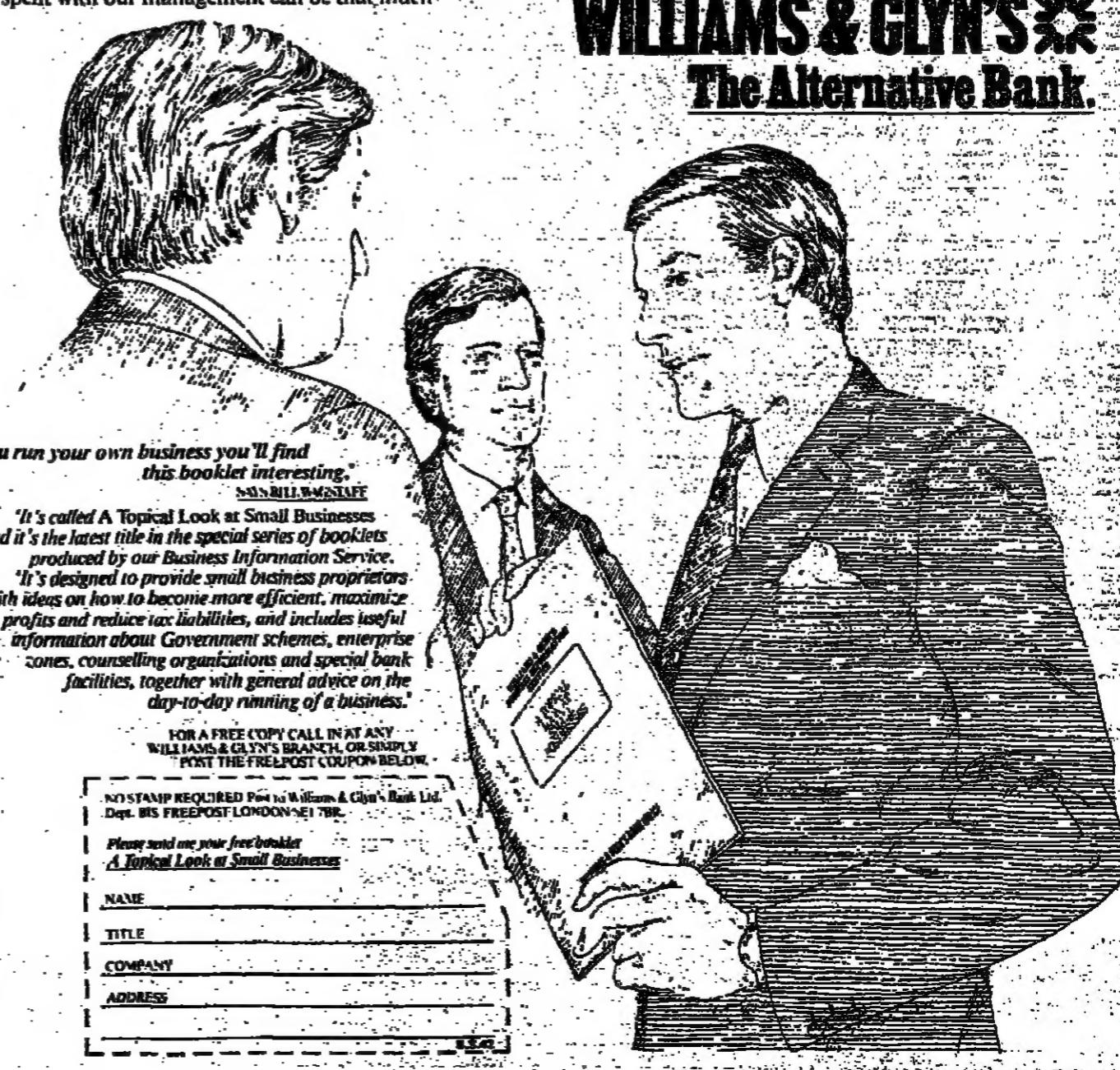
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# Deng's departure raises fears for China's future

From David Bonavia, Peking, Feb 7

The disclosure that Mr Deng Xiaoping will no longer take an active role in the day-to-day administration of China has caused surprise and even shock among observers of Chinese affairs and raised grave concern about the country's future.

Mr Deng, the leading vice-chairman of the Communist Party, has been in control of party and government affairs since his political rehabilitation in 1973 apart from a one-year period of disgrace during and after the final ascendancy of the leftist "Gang of Four" led by Jiang Qing, widow of Mao Tse-tung.

Mr Wan Li, a Deputy Prime Minister, considered close to Mr Deng, told a delegation from Reuters news agency that he was in southern China, resting. However, Foreign Ministry officials vehemently denied reports that he was in poor health.

Mr Deng's personal prestige, experience and authority are considered to have been the crucial factor in maintaining national unity in recent years, in the face of some highly divisive issues.

Mr Deng's last known statement on the question of his retirement was that he would remain in office until 1985 then seek an advisory role. There is no explanation as to why he should have decided to limit his own functions three years ahead of time.

## Glemp urges voice for Solidarity

Rome, Feb 7. — Archbishop Józef Glemp, the Roman Catholic primate of Poland, said today that Solidarity should be included in efforts to achieve reconciliation in his country.

Archbishop Glemp, in Rome for his first meeting with the Pope since martial law was declared in Poland, preached to the Polish community in the ancient church of St Stanislaus: "Rage is the worst disease now afflicting our homeland," he said.

Appealing for tolerance, the Archbishop said: "Poland must not become an arena for bloody confrontations." But he made no reference to his meetings with the Pope, who today refrained from making any comments on the Polish crisis at his traditional Sunday blessing. — Reuter.

■ Warsaw: The Polish Communist Party said today it was finding it hard to woo back workers and intellectuals who deserted it during the confrontation with Solidarity. (Reuter reports). Mr Włodzimierz Mokrzyszczak a secretary of the party's

virtual dismantling of the communes, with the aim of quickly raising the peasants' living standards. This has made it more difficult to find new recruits in the rural areas.

Even more annoying, from the Army commanders' point of view, was the series of attacks on corruption and abuse of privilege by some of them, which surfaced in new literary works, including some written by serving officers.

Another source of opposition to Mr Deng's policies has been a group of ministers in the State Council. They are reported to have been dismayed by Mr Deng's go-slow on development of onshore oilfields pending the exploitation of newly surveyed deposits in the South and East China seas.

Other ministers are thought to disagree with the current "economic readjustment" which has meant drastically curtailing heavy industry in the interests of developing textile and light industries to raise living standards.

But Mr Deng's main battle has been with the entrenched bureaucracy at the upper and middle levels which, jealous of its privileges, has refused to put its back into the implementation of the new, right-leaning policies, for fear that they will be blamed if there is another leftward shift.

The positions of the various Western delegations range from the tough stance of Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, who recently informed Nato allies that he favours suspending the conference until next autumn, as a sign of protest over Poland, to the more conciliatory attitude of Mr Leo Tindemann, the Belgian Foreign Minister, who advocates a recess as a period of reflection, but only after two or three weeks' more discussion in Madrid.

The possibility exists of next Tuesday's debate ending in a total breakdown of the conference. Since a severe confrontation between East and West could make it impossible to achieve the consensus needed to continue the meeting, most observers of the conference, the answer, delivered with a broad grin, was — like most of those that preceded it — brilliant and elusive. Taken literally, it could mean that nothing in Egypt has changed except the name of the man at the top. But no one in the room took it like that. Here we all felt, was a president who would certainly not commit the lapse of taste of criticizing his murdered predecessor, but who was very definitely his

own man and happy to be such.

Mr Mubarak had had lunch with Mrs Thatcher at Chequers on Saturday. He had called in Britain on his way home from Washington, and was leaving for Bonn, to meet Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor. (On the Outward journey he had stopped in Rome and Paris.) The Europeans, he said, had

"a very strong role to play in achieving a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, through their influence on the United States and on Israel.

Did he mean we should put pressure on those countries? "I'm not speaking at all about pressures... Understanding, discussing this with their friends the Israelis, and also with the United States — it would be a good support to the comprehensive settlement."

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## Battle lines drawn for Madrid talks

From Harry Debelius  
Madrid, Feb 7.

The foreign ministers of at least 20 countries began gathering here today for a verbal battle — with the Soviet and Polish Governments as the principal targets — that could turn the hundredth session of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe into the final session.

The first plenary session after a winter recess will be presided over on Tuesday by Józef Wieszczyk, the Polish Deputy Foreign Minister, who is said to have issued a warning before leaving Warsaw that his country will not take part in the Madrid conference if it is relegated to the rule of defendant.

The Polish and Soviet Governments are expected to be accused by Western nations of violating the 1975 Helsinki agreements, which it is the task of the present conference to review and endorse.

The fact that most of the 35 participating countries will be represented by their foreign ministers, rather than by normal heads of delegation, suggests the importance that their governments attach to the meeting at this time, after 15 months of debate with little progress.

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## Mubarak sees role for Europe

By Edward Mortimer

"My name is Hosni Mubarak." These were not the first but the last words of the Egyptian President's short press conference at London airport yesterday morning.

They were perhaps also the most significant, coming as they did in reply to the question, "In what way do you have any different substance, any different policy from your predecessor, if any?"

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## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Terrorist suffer big setback

Rome. — Italian anti-terrorist police have arrested more than 150 guerrilla suspects and dismantled 25 of their bases since the liberation 11 days ago of General James Dozier, Interior Minister sources said.

General Dozier was rescued after 42 days in captivity. The Washington Post reported that six men sent by the Pentagon to serve as liaison between Italian and American officials were members of the elite counter-terrorist joint task force. It was created last year to replace the special army unit which failed to liberate the American hostages from Iran in 1980.

### Missile gingerly reclaimed

Schramberg, West Germany. — American explosives experts carefully dismantled the concrete floor of a Black Forest barn in an attempt to recover five Sidewinder missiles which fell off a jet fighter during combat drill.

The 190lb missile, which carries about 9lb of TNT, plunged through the roof of the barn, and drove through about 15ft of densely packed hay before embedding itself 3ft into the concrete and sandstone floor, an Air Force spokesman said. The owner of the barn, Herr Eugen Seckinger, aged 79, and his wife, were taken to safety after the missile was discovered. Police said that Herr Seckinger, being hard of hearing, knew nothing of the missile until he saw a large hole in the barn roof.

### Moses inspires a president

Washington. — When President Reagan celebrated his seventy-first birthday here with a few close friends, he became the oldest man ever to occupy the White House. Last week at a prayer luncheon, he joked about his age.

He said: "This increase of numbers doesn't bother me at all because I recall that Moses was 80 when God commissioned him for public service, and he lived to be 120. And Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were 90 when they did something truly amazing — they had a son, Isaac. Sarah had thought to be sterile.

### Surgeons cut supply route

Paris. — A 22-year-old Briton was recovering here from an operation during which surgeons recovered more than 3 lb of cocaine from his stomach, reliable sources said.

The man, who lives in London, was intercepted when he arrived on a flight from Colombia. He is said to have admitted having swallowed 70 tablets of cocaine, each 40 grams in condoms.

### Romanian food prices to rise

Vienna. — Romania is raising food prices but will compensate low wage earners for the additional expense, Agerpres, the official news agency, said.

Western sources said that some prices, including those of black bread, sugar, flour and oil, had remained unchanged for about 30 years. Romania is negotiating with the International Monetary Fund for the second part of a \$1,480m loan (about £800m) granted last June.

### Lenin tomb closes

Moscow. — The Kremlin has announced that Lenin's mausoleum in Red Square, Moscow, is to be closed for two months — usually an indication that restorative work will be carried out on the embalmed body of the revolutionary leader who died in 1924. The mausoleum will be shut from February 15 to April 15, according to Pravda.

## Cell death starts biggest outcry since Biko

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Feb 7

South African opposition politicians, backed by trade unionists and leading businessmen, have called for a full official inquiry into the death of Dr Neil Aggett, the 22-year-old trade union leader found hanged in his cell at security police headquarters in Johannesburg.

The police claim Dr Aggett hanged himself but his death has set off a political and legal storm about the conditions in which prisoners are held for interrogation without trial for months under South Africa's rigorous and all-embracing security laws.

His death has already caused the biggest outcry since that of the Black consciousness leader Steve Biko, who died in 1977 from injuries sustained at security police offices in Port Elizabeth.

The fullest statement from the authorities on Dr Aggett's death was given yesterday by Lieutenant-General Coetzee, the Deputy Commissioner of Police and chief of security branch, who said Dr Aggett was found hanging from an iron grille behind his cell door by a piece of clothing wound round his neck.

Lieutenant-General Coetzee also disclosed that Dr Aggett had left a unfinished statement.

Dr Aggett was being held under section 6 of the Terrorism Act, under which a suspect can be held indefinitely in solitary confinement without trial. Professor John Dugard, of the University of Witwatersrand, today called for a formal investigation into mounting evidence that "Section 6 produces an environment of intimidation tantamount to torture".

Commentators agreed that there was no danger of expulsion from the United Nations.

□ The United States appears to be backing away from its earlier threats against the United Nations (Our New York Correspondent writes).

Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, the American representative, called the resolution "obnoxious" and "filled with ominous portent".

Pyke blames man with grudge for his ordeal

Schiphol, Holland, Feb 7. — Mr Andrew Pyke, the British businessman freed by Iran, has said that false accusations by a would-be suicide with a judge led to his 518-day ordeal in a Tehran jail. "He made an unpleasant accusations... that I was a spy. I am not a spy," Mr Pyke said on arrival in the Netherlands.

Mr Pyke, who managed an Iranian-Dutch firm operating helicopters for the oil industry, was arrested at Tehran airport as he was about to leave Iran in August, 1980. He was released from jail 10 days ago.

Yesterday he reacted angrily to a barrage of questions from reporters as he and his smiling Dutch-born wife Tilleke were taken by Dutch police to a reunion at the airport with friends. "I've been in prison for a year and a half. Leave me alone," he shouted at journalists.

After the reunion he apologized to the press and, walking to a news conference surrounded by Dutch policemen, said: "The last guys I was with like this had green jackets, berets and machine guns."

Looking drawn but very happy, Mr Pyke said that after investigations a religious judge said he had no case to answer. He was

initially held on spying charges but Iranian officials said later they were investigating financial matters. He said he did not plan to go back to Iran.

Replies to questions, he said, knew of six American prisoners being held in Iran, adding that he knew one of them very well. During his captivity he was allowed books and exercise but spent a brief time in confinement. He was kept in three jails and sometimes slept on the floor of his cell, he said.

He said he had felt despair,

particularly when three British missionaries were freed last year. "I thought I was going with them. I fell through a hole in the floor when I heard I wasn't." But he never felt that his life was in danger although he stayed in Iran's Evin prison knowing that executions were taking place there all the time.

Mr Pyke thanked the 10,000 British people who sent him Christmas cards for their moral support and the British diplomats who negotiated for his freedom.

He and his wife were

driven away to an undisclosed location in the Netherlands, where they hoped to

spend a few days alone before flying to London. — Reuter

## Israelis dismiss UN vote

From Moshe Brillant  
Tel Aviv, Feb 7

Israel today derisively dismissed Friday's United Nations call for its diplomatic, economic and military isolation. A Cabinet statement said tardy that Israel did not need moral preaching about peace from the Arab states and the Soviet Union.

The 21 countries which opposed the resolution, including all of Western Europe except Greece, were praised as "democratic and free", in contrast to the communist members of Asia, Africa and the Arab world which made up the majority.

The statement said that the General Assembly's resolution was "null and void", but some analysts said that remained to be seen. The newspaper, *Maariv*, noted in a leading article that a small number of states which supported the resolution (Burma, Cyprus, Greece, Nepal and Peru) maintained diplomatic ties with Israel. A larger number maintained trade relations.

Commentators agreed that there was no danger of expulsion from the United Nations.

□ The United States appears to be backing away from its earlier threats against the United Nations (Our New York Correspondent writes).

Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, the American representative, called the resolution "obnoxious" and "filled with ominous portent".

In 1981 BL Italia, the company marketing BL care in Italy, sold vehicles worth £100M.

This is a 73% increase on 1980's sales and has increased BL Italia's sales to over £100M for the first time.

Since the formation of BL Italia in 1976, sales have increased six fold.

Commenting on the figures Signor Sergio Mia,

Managing Director of BL Italia, said: "The major reason for our improvement is the launch of the Metro which is now selling at a rate of 1,500 a month.

In 1982 we launch more new models, including the

## Washington's 'three Bs' prepare for EEC battle

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Feb 7

A Belgian, a West German and a Dane descend on Washington tomorrow for a steady exchange of words with three American ministers who are disrespectfully referred to in Brussels as "The three Bs".

According to Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, the meeting should be "an elegant dialogue" about the trading difficulties that exist between Europe and the United States. According to a very senior and angry EEC official last week, "there will be a good deal of blood on the floor".

What threatens to turn the elegant dialogue into a bloodbath is European fury at the rash of trade being brought against European steel producers for allegedly dumping their heavily subsidized produce on the American market. This, the writer claims, is causing material damage to the domestic industry.

Building a thick dossier of statistics to prove Europe's innocence, the Belgian Industry Commissioner, Viscount Eustache Davignon, and the West German External Relations Commissioner, Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp, will take on two of the "Bs" — Mr Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary of the Commerce Department, and Mr William Brock, Trade Representative. Locked in single combat and hurling frozen chicken figures and maize gluten feed subsidies at each other, will be the Danish Agriculture Commissioner, Mr Poul Dalsgård and Mr John Block, Secretary of State for Agriculture.

The one thing certain to be proven by the encounter is the truth of Bernard Shaw's adage that there are lies, damn lies and statistics. With unemployment growing and the farming lobbies growing more vociferous on both sides of the Atlantic, the partners in Mr Haig's "elegant dialogue" will be seeking to prove that they have every right to exploit each others' markets and to dump if necessary.

In the words of the angry Commission official last week: "There is no rule about dumping. If you dump it is a fact of life. No one can complain if someone dumps."

But the consequence of that is the growth of the mood of protectionism and not only in the United States. It is starting to sweep through Europe to such an extent that the very concept of the words "Common

Market" is becoming questionable.

If the three commissioners, presumably bloodied but unbowed, can overcome their jet lag in time, they will be taking part in the weekly Commission meeting on Wednesday. There they will be devoting a good deal of their time to drafting a plan for narrowing the \$7,800m trade gap between the EEC and Japan. For as competition grows, Europe finds itself fighting its trading partners on all fronts: only with the EFTA countries and the poorer lands round the Mediterranean does the EEC have a trade surplus. All other producers, including the Soviet block, Third World countries and, of course, the oil exporters, have a net trading profit with the EEC.

This unpleasant economic fact of life is causing the individual EEC nations to turn on one another in nationalistic efforts to save their own industries.

This is most obvious in France where the new Socialist Government, following a path tentatively blazed by the previous administration, is setting out to "reconquer the internal market".

The weapons for reconquest have yet to be forged. But there can be little doubt they will involve national aids tantamount to subsidy, which arguably run counter to the Treaty of Rome ideals.

But France, which opens and shuts its frontiers to Italian wine in wilful contradiction of the treaty, is far

from being the only EEC member to devise trade barriers against its supposed partners. Every country is currently being prosecuted by the European Court for the practices and the signs are that the habit is growing, despite earnest Commission efforts to reverse the trend.

Some trade barriers are ingenious. Belgian shops can only sell margarine in cubic containers — and that keeps out West German competitors. Irish shops can only sell certain kinds of furniture with instructions in Gaelic — and that keeps out most people. West German wool cannot be sold in the traditional European standard size of 40 grammes. All chickens imported into Britain have to be free of vaccination — and that keeps out all but Irish birds. All soft drinks in Denmark have to be sold in returnable bottles — and that takes the fizz out of competitors' profits.

The list of measures is as varied as the ingenuity of 10 member states can concoct.

France is now pressing for a range of unspecified measures to protect the European market from outside pressures. It is not winning any support in the declared statements of other European leaders, but increasingly the gap is widening between the public political necessity of remaining firm to the principle of free trade and the private economy necessity of protecting internal markets.

There is, however, one

very damaging side effect of internal EEC protectionism, which is already causing real concern within the Commission. This is the way in which American investment vital to the European economy is being frightened away by these untreaylike barriers. American companies chose to put money into the EEC during the 60s and 70s because this meant they had a large common market. Now that "Buy French" or "Think British" campaigns are taking hold, potential American investors are looking elsewhere to place their dollars.

The European Commission is preparing for a long, hard trade war ahead on all fronts. But while it sends champions off to the United States to fight for steel and concocts plans to keep out the Japanese, its biggest battle looks likely to be against member states.

Figures for 1981 are not yet complete, although in each case the trend is continuing if not accelerating. EEC unemployment is now more than 10 million.

Confirmed treaty infringements (as of Oct 1, 1981)

complied

	1978	1979
Japan	-5,036	-5,104
United States	-5,022	-5,028
Germany	-5,020	-5,020
France	-1,857	-1,825
Oil producers	-3700	-27100
Non-oil producers	-1500	-1200
Third World	2300	1100
EEC Unemployed	6,004,000	6,002,000
	8,644,000	

Figures and figures derived from EEC publications: present practice and future trends by Wolfgang Haier and Robert Taylor (European Research Associates, 33 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7RR).



## Turkish military tighten restrictions on press

Ankara, Feb 7.—Turkey's military rulers announced further restrictions on the press yesterday and banned non-government bodies from investigating or meeting foreign delegations.

The military statement barred the Turkish press from quoting foreign news reports critical of Turkey. It ordered societies, foundations, trade unions, and other bodies to seek the permission of the martial law authorities before inviting foreign delegations.

The European Commission was vague. It banned Turkish newspapers from quoting foreign radio stations or other foreign news media in relations between Turkey and the West after criticism of Turkey's military rule last week by the Council of Europe.

General Kenan Evren, the head of state, accused the Council of interfering in Turkey's affairs and hinted that Turkey might withdraw. The press has not been censored since the September, 1980 coup although editors have been warned to stick to guidelines laid down by the generals.

A scheduled visit to Turkey this week by Mr Emile van Lennep, secretary-general of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, was quietly postponed.

Today's military statement was vague. It banned Turkish newspapers from quoting foreign radio stations or other foreign news media in relations between Turkey and the West after criticism of Turkey's military rule last week by the Council of Europe.

## Party closes ranks behind Marchais

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Feb 7

The twenty-fourth Congress of the French Communist Party, which ended today, predictably produced no surprises, though it came soon after the party's most resounding electoral defeat since the Second World War.

There was hardly a whisper during the five-day marathon of speeches of the serious crisis which grips the party, the sharp decline in popular support and the mounting financial difficulties.

M. Georges Marchais, the architect of this disaster, whose leadership seemed under threat after last June's elections, was triumphantly re-elected as secretary-general for another three-year term.

Only 12 new members were elected to the party's 145-strong Central Committee. But M. Georges Seguy, the secretary-general of the Communist-dominated CGT trade union, left it at his own request. He is also to give up his post as leader of the trade union organization next June, for health reasons.

The facade of unanimity was successfully maintained at the congress. The final motion was carried by 2,004 votes out of 2,006 delegates, with two abstentions. "The immense majority of Communists have come out in favour of the strategy proposed," Mr Guy Hermier, a

## Moi threatens to throw out Kenyan Asians

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi, Feb 7

A bitter attack on Asian businessmen here by President Daniel Arap Moi has shocked and dismayed many of the 80,000 Asians living in Kenya.

President Moi yesterday accused Asians of hoarding and smuggling, and said any Asian doing this would be deported, even if he were a Kenyan citizen.

The President was speaking to a delegation from Embu, 120 miles from here, which called on him at State House in Nairobi.

Attacking corruption, he said: "Asians in this country are ruining the economy by smuggling currency out of the country and even hoarding essential goods and selling them through the back door. From now on anybody

## Belgium faced by general strike

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Feb 7

Much of Belgium will be paralysed for 24 hours from midnight by a general strike called in protest at government austerity measures, which have yet to be announced officially.

There will be no trains, law courts, newspapers, buses, post office and telephone services or creches. A few schools may operate in defiance of picket lines. Hospitals, radio and television, pharmacies and fire services will run the barest of services. Most of industry is expected to be at a standstill.

The strike has been called by the socialist FGTB union, which is strongest in French-speaking Wallonia, the area which has been hardest hit by Belgium's escalating economic difficulties. In Wallonia the Christian CSC union is also expected to lend its considerable backing to the industrial action. Even in Flanders, where support for the coalition Government is strongest, widespread action looks likely.

The reason for the protest action was made clear last night in a television interview with Mr Wilfried Martens, the Prime Minister. He said he would be using the special powers his Government has just been given to hold down any increase in the national wage bill this year to 3 per cent. Restoring the economy was not an easy task and would involve sacrifices by everyone, he said. "we must work harder and harder".

Mr Martens promised that before introducing new economic measures there would be "real, but brief" consultation with the unions. Lack of agreement would not stop the Government from acting. Only the most impoverished would not have to make sacrifices.

Imposing these sacrifices, which will also entail redundancies in ailing industries, the coalition Government. In particular, the French-speaking Social Christian Party (PSC), which is closely linked with the Christian trade union movement, finds itself in difficulties in Wallonia.

This was underlined yesterday by the near unanimous decision of the Christian workers movement meeting in Namur to form a new political movement. The meeting felt that in supporting the government the PSC was drawing away from the grass roots union support

## TO ALL MOTHERS

### Let's not send our irreplaceable children to the battlefield. Now is the time for all mothers of the world to unite in a drive against military armaments.

Recently, many countries of the world have moved to increase their armaments rather than moving toward disarmament.

This trend, should it continue unchecked, will make it difficult to avoid a third world war which may spell the destruction of mankind. I am deeply worried by this possibility.

After World War II, I was incarcerated for 3 years and 14 days as a "Class A" war crime suspect in Sugamo Prison in Tokyo. During my imprisonment, some 35 years ago, I submitted a plea to General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, as well as to U.S. President Harry Truman. In it, I revealed my willingness to sacrifice my own life if necessary in order to eradicate war and save mankind from its horrors.

From that time on, I have practiced the principles of the universal brotherhood of mankind in the belief that "the world is one family, all people are brothers and sisters." Today I continue to call for total disarmament, and for the creation of a lasting peace which transcends politics, economics, philosophies, religious beliefs, race and national boundaries.

Wars produce a thousand evils, and no good. To end them and to establish a lasting peace requires more than a mere reduction of nuclear warheads or conventional weapons. An absolute prerequisite for permanent peace is total disarmament. Countries opposed to complete disarmament are enemies of peace. And as these countries pose a threat to all mankind, other nations of the world must join in solidarity to blockade them economically. If this can be done, these countries will be forced to end their intransigence, no matter how powerful they may be.

Today, the world's annual military expenditures exceed \$550 billion. If total disarmament is achieved, this money can be reallocated to further the welfare of

mankind. Precious lives will not be lost, and natural resources will not be wasted.

With these things in mind, I am appealing to the mothers of the world to join forces and establish "Mothers for Peace" organizations dedicated to ending war and to furthering the movement to abolish military armaments.

There is no woman, regardless of her nationality, who bears and raises her children so that they may die on the battlefield. Rather, they carry their children, give birth to them, and would sacrifice themselves to protect them from harm.

I appeal to all mothers from the bottom of my heart to support and cooperate with this initiative to abolish all armaments which might otherwise take the lives of their children in wars.

If you agree with these sentiments, regardless of whether you're a woman or a man, I'd like to hear your opinion concerning this problem, which concerns us all. Please send me a postcard or letter, and please include your name, address, occupation and age.



川良一

Ryoichi Sasakawa

(82 years of age)

President  
World Society for the Memorialization  
of War Victims

Respect your parents and elderly people. Take care of ill people.

# Carrington in Malaysia to mend trade fences

From David Watts, Kuala Lumpur, Feb 7

Lord Carrington, Foreign Secretary, begins tomorrow his most ticklish diplomatic task in three years — to patch up relations with Malaysia, which have reached their lowest ebb for quarters of a century.

Not since he mended fences with the Saudis after the showing on British television of the film *Death of a Princess* has the Foreign Secretary faced a problem of such complexity, and of such economic importance to Britain. Malaysia's preference for non-British products has cost British companies at least £15.5m in the past few weeks, and could cost many times that in lost orders in the near future.

Among the deals that may depend on the success of the Foreign Secretary's visit are an order for the best-selling British Aerospace Hawk trainer/ground attack aircraft, and a regular annual contract for Leyland lorries.

The Royal Malaysian Air Force requires 26 jet trainers, of which British Aerospace hopes to supply at least a part. But competition is strong from cheaper and less sophisticated rivals from Italy and Brazil.

A regular contract with British Leyland for the

supply of army lorries is part of the 9,000m Malaysian dollars (£2,100m) that the Government intends to spend on manpower, bases and equipment for the police and armed forces under the fourth Malaysia Plan between 1981 and 1985.

Britain has always been in the forefront as a supplier of military equipment to Kuala Lumpur, but with the office of Dr Mahathir Mohammed, the Prime Minister, monitoring all government contracts with Britain, that lead will be reduced.

Under rules introduced last October, the Prime Minister's office inspects all British Government bids and contracts and, unless there is no alternative supplier available, awards the contract to the next lowest bidder.

Within the last few weeks, a £13m contract for the construction of a power station at Klang, 26 miles east of the capital, has been lost, and a £2.3m consultancy on energy-related construction work in the north-east state of Terengganu has gone to an American company, after a lower British bid, on which Matthew Hall company had been working for two years, had been rejected.

In the long-term, Maly-

sia's 42,800m dollar development plan has many opportunities for British companies, if the present resistance to things British can be overcome. Lord Carrington's task is a sensitive one, and quick results are not expected.

British officials say that Lord Carrington has nothing immediate to offer. He comes, as he said in his first speech on arrival, "to listen and learn". He has emphasized that "relations between Malaysia and Britain must be based on mutual respect and equality".

In Dr Mahathir Mohammed he is dealing with a complex and determined man, whose resentment of the British and the handling of their £1,000m worth of interests in Malaysia has a multitude of causes. The most recent is a series of real and imagined slights, which began last year with the removal of student subsidies, and reached a peak of intensity with a speech by the High Commissioner, Mr William Bentley, and what the Malaysian Government saw as attempts by the British to prevent the Malaysians from buying up British holdings in the country.

# After unions and Ulster, what next for the great persuader?



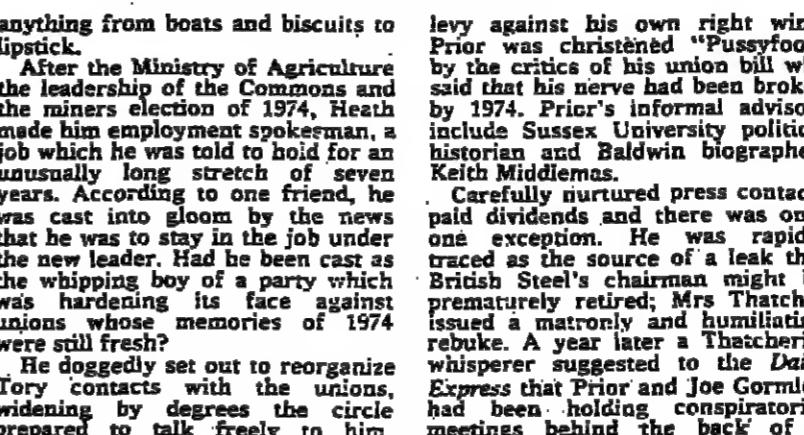
Cabinet reshuffle: September, 1981

Putting a cheerful face on the move from Employment to Northern Ireland



Belfast: November, 1981

Leaving the funeral of MP Robert Bradford, murdered by the IRA



Bloodied but unbowed: Thai soldiers after a battle with Khun Sa's troops.

## Thais tame warlord's town

From Neil Kelly, Ban Therd Thai, Thailand, Feb 7

Thailand gave this mountain town five miles from Burma a new name over the weekend to mark its recapture from Khun Sa, the Burmese warlord who dominated the narcotics trade in the Golden Triangle.

Thai forces last month drove him and his private army out of the town which they had ruled like mandarins for a decade. The town was called Ban Hin Taek, but Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, daughter of King Bhumibol, chose the new name, Ban Therd Thai, which means "village uplifted to freedom".

Thai authorities are trying to reassess the control which Khun Sa was allowed to seize in 1973. A new Thai flag flies over the centre and three battalions of troops are quartered here. Until a few days ago the nearest military post was two miles away.

Yesterday 200 paramilitary rangers fought a two-hour battle four miles from the town with 30 of Khun Sa's men, killing three of them without suffering casualties themselves.

Almost all the population of 1,650, mainly Burmese Shans and Chinese Yunnanese, fled during last month's fighting but 70 per cent have now returned. Two small sections of the town were destroyed, largely by Khun Sa's men as they blew up stores of ammunition.

Otherwise the prosperous town which Khun Sa built with profits from his drug empire is intact. Strongly-built concrete and brick houses and shops are a contrast with primitive bamboo and leaf shacks in neighbouring villages.

The town has two guest houses for distinguished visitors. Thai Army officers said many well-known Thai military men and politicians had been among Khun Sa's guests. The Government will use Khun Sa's properties for the benefit of the local community.

The location of the town partly explains why Khun Sa and his drug empire went unmolested by the Government for so long. For half a year during the wet season it is virtually cut off from the outside world. Even now a helicopter or a vehicle with a four-wheel drive is needed to reach the town.

## Slump takes the pep out of Costa Rican election

San José, Costa Rica, Feb 7 — Costa Rica, Central America's showpiece democracy, is voting today in general and presidential elections overshadowed by the country's worst economic crisis in more than three decades of political stability.

The 1.2 million Costa Ricans eligible to vote appear far more concerned with food shortages, high inflation and high unemployment than involving themselves in a national election campaign.

After almost a decade of spending more than it earned, this tiny republic now finds itself with a \$2,500m (£1,400m) foreign debt which it cannot start repaying. The economic slump is of such proportions that the presidential candidates have avoided naming their planned solutions.

A scarcity of dollars and pressure on Costa Rica's currency, the colón, forced the Government into a formal devaluation last year. The colón now trades at around 40 to the dollar, compared with a previous official value of 8.5.

This year's campaign lacks the colourful parades and spontaneous political gatherings of past years. The fear of violence is growing — Reuter.

## Economic emergency in Bolivia

La Paz, Feb 7 — Government employees will get pay rises, prices of essential foods will be frozen and public spending curbed under Bolivia's emergency economic package, details of which were revealed yesterday.

The military Government has devalued the Peso, in an attempt to stop the country going bankrupt, and has outlined a number of other measures.

Government sources said that petrol prices would rise by between 33 and 43 per cent, pushing up transport costs. To compensate for this, Government employees would receive pay rises of between 17 and 130 per cent.

Bolivia suffers from a chronic shortage of foreign exchange, which has been exacerbated by the world economic recession.

Reserves were virtually exhausted by the end of last year, and the country is saddled with a \$3,800m (£2,000m) external debt.

President Torrelio said that Bolivia's economic predicament was caused by its poor use of foreign loans, high interest rates on its short term debts, and the exorbitant cost of luxury imports.

Soon after President Torrelio announced the new measures on television, the armed forces confirmed their confidence in his Government, and called on the population to give it their "patriotic support". President Torrelio, an army general, came to power in a coup last year. — Reuter.

Elisabeth Badinter, the 37-year-old wife of the French Minister of Justice, argues coolly — that there is no such thing as natural maternal instinct, that it is a culturally acquired emotion.

In support of her argument she has written a book detailing the historical evidence of the lack of maternal instinct in French women over the past 200 years.

Needless to say, the book, published next Thursday, *The Myth of Motherhood* (Souverain Press, £8.95, £5.95 paperback) has roused considerable criticism in France.

Psychologists, paediatricians, educationalists and the clergy have all denounced it.

Although she was the first woman to be appointed a full professor at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, in person Mrs Badinter is gentle and looks younger than her years. She speaks quietly, softly and convincingly of her ideas and she is the obviously affectionate mother of three children, Judith, 15, Robert, 13, and Benjamin, 11.

As evidence she cites detailed statistics: "In 1780 Jean Charles Pierre Lenoir, lieutenant-general of the Paris police, noted, not without some bitterness that only 1,000 of the 21,000 babies born each year in Paris were being breast fed by their mothers. Another 1,000 newborns, children of privileged families, were breast fed by live-in wet nurses. The rest were taken from their mothers and sent to wet nurses outside Paris.

The poorer the child, the further it was sent, sometimes as far as Normandy or Burgundy."

The practice was not

confined to Paris. It occurred

in most French cities. In

Lyon, for example, Prose de Loyer, a police lieutenant

pointed out, "there are close

to 6,000 births yearly. Out

of these there are at most 1,000

whose parents can supply

good nurses. The others are

cast off to wretched ones."

new science of demography, the writings of Rousseau and the rise of the bourgeoisie.

"The mother-dominated family is an ideological invention of the nineteenth century," she says.

Concerned about falling population and the number of infant deaths, French authorities started emphasizing hygienic home care for infants, and the "new mother" came essentially from the new middle class.

"By accepting responsibility for her children's upbringing the middle class woman became the central axis of the family," The holy 'domestic monarch'.

As evidence she cites

degrees in psychology and

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The practice of using wet

nurses went all the way down

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everybody in the cities except

the very wealthy and the very poor sent their babies away.

It was, she said, a very

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silk workers, shopkeepers and other artisans who worked alongside their husbands could not afford to take time off to nurse their own babies.

Peasants in the country generally did not give up their own children unless they were extremely poor, in which case they would abandon their own babies in order to be paid for nursing a city child.

Not even all aristocratic babies were kept at home. A typical case was the great statesman Charles Maurice de Talleyrand, who was baptised on the day of his birth in 1754 in Paris and handed over to a wet nurse immediately afterwards.

She took him to her home in an outlying district. During more than four years his mother did not visit him even once, nor did she ever inquire about him. For instance, she was quite unaware that an accident had left her son with a club foot.

"It would be senseless to speak of mother love during this period," Elisabeth Badinter says. "When society does not put pressure on women to keep their children you find that women do something else. It was true in ancient Rome as well."

She also criticizes the

authors who led the "maternal revolution" — Rousseau and his twentieth-century counterpart Freud.

"They had the same defini-

tion of what is a 'normal

woman'. They said

## THE ARTS

Television  
Breaking uneven

Helena Braggi appeared briefly on The South Bank Show (BBC1) last night to hand over to Germaine Greer. I began to think that was uncom-  
monly handsome of him but, before the end, concluded it was downright rash. In future he might reflect where good intentions can lead.

Miss Greer was talking about the Art of the Ad, specifically the television commercial, not those which punctuated her performance — and on this occasion the unnatural breaks seemed less intrusive — but television advertising in general and what she considers the best in particular.

Miss Greer's father, she informed us at the outset, was a seller of advertising space, an occupation that passes through periods of great travail, and it may be that she was unconsciously aiming for a well-provided conclusion by giving her benison without due care and attention.

Whatever the motivation, she failed a lot of rot. British advertising has been technically good for many years and even bad advertisements, those which grab us by the lapels and shout information we could do without, can be technically good while being aesthetically, socially and psychologically moronic.

A lot of money is spent on making them and Miss Greer, in her Alice in Blunderland role, had discovered that a 30-second commercial can equal or exceed the cost of a half-hour programme. The point about commercials is that, no matter how expensive they are, or how sophisticated visually, they are intrusive. It is true that they are less unwelcome if they are clever, or humorous, or both. But if, for instance, you were watching *Brabant* you would not (unless you were Miss Greer) jump up and say "Whoopee" when you saw the "End of Part One" come up to herald the commercials.

Miss Greer took no account of this, nor did she appear aware that good commercials — those that entertain as well as sell — are dependent not only on the agency but on the client who is selling the product and the market that product is aimed at.

I had no quarrel with her choice of advertisements — all were visually excellent — just with her approach and general naivete. She took us through her choices like a newly-qualified remedial teacher.

She explained every facet of the Cinezano Bianco commercial — the one in which Leonard Rossiter tips his drink over Joan Collins; announced that she could watch the Fiat Strada commercial "hand-made by Robots" — every day; thought it sheer genius to have married Italian music to an Italian car (maybe Wagner had the wrong beat); and told the director Hugh Hudson how clever he had been to get the sound of nuts falling in one of his commercials. He explained it had just happened.

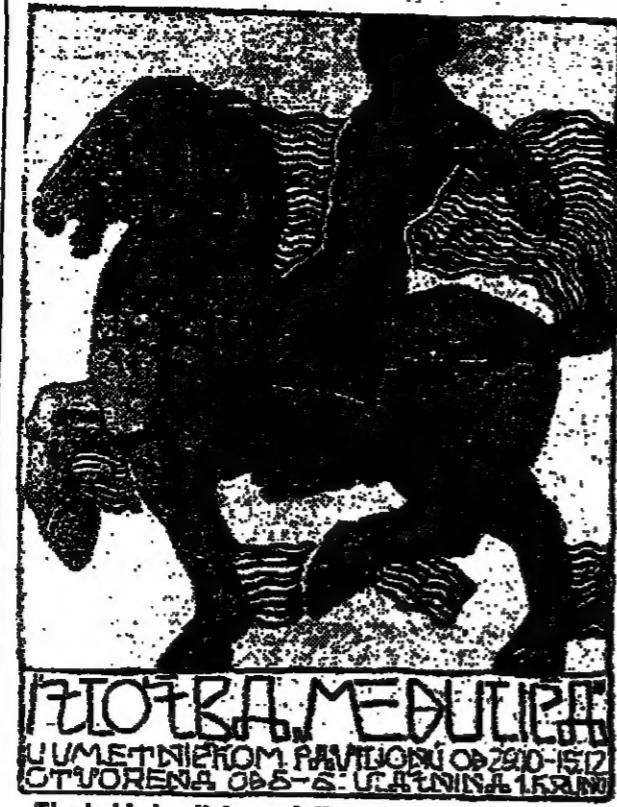
It was like that — all gush and garbage. "I allowed myself to needle him," she said before talking to Lester Binkin, a director and for many years, a superb still photographer. He appeared looking remarkably un-needed in the circumstances, explaining that in advertising no one was asked to make anything other than a positive statement. He, I thought, would have made a greater intellectual contribution to such a programme than Miss Greer.

She ended by telling us that in hard times the best went first and appeared to be urging the formation of some kind of society to protect good advertising, which she put at the improbable high figure of ten per cent.

I could not work up my usual enthusiasm for BBC2's *World About Us*, which told the story of the Samurai from Twickenham, a 35-year-old airline pilot who began with judo, got his black belt in Japan, taught himself the language, married a Japanese, became obsessed with the Samurai and was eventually accepted as one of them.

We followed him to Japan to see him become the first foreigner to take part in the Some Wild Horse Chase, a Samurai event that sounded more exciting in prospect than it looked. It needed a Kurosawa to make it work, but the pilot was fine and I would feel safe flying with him. You have to be careful what you say about a Samuri.

Dennis Hackett



The bold simplicity and directness of Mestrovic's poster for an exhibition; and (right) the delicate rococo side in Cardinaux's poster for "Die Wilden Schwäne".

## Galleries

## Rising joyously to the fleeting occasion

The Art of the Poster in Austria and Germany 1900-1920  
Fischer Fine Art

The Art of Radio Times

Victoria and Albert Museum

Even the finest of fine artists do not always live in ivory towers — indeed some of them never do. Bread and butter has to be earned, and what is there, after all, so demeaning about working to a commission and a deadline? Sometimes the result will be hardly more than adequate. But sometimes the pressures, excitements and disciplines of the situation give a sense of occasion to which the artist, like an actor on first night, may triumphantly rise.

It is quite possible, therefore, to prefer the graphic work of some of the artists included in Fischer Fine Art's show of mainly Jugendstil posters from central and eastern Europe to their easel paintings. Franz von Stuck's paintings can easily be flashy and more than a little vulgar; but his posters for various art shows in Munich during the 1900s pull him together remarkably and reveal a strong sense of vital form under the sexy Symbolist trappings. Peter Behrens, being primarily an architect, industrial designer and graphic artist, we would expect to come up with strong designs perfectly calculated for their form and purpose, but the poster by the Yugoslav sculptor Mestrovic for an art show in Zagreb comes as a very pleasing bonus, with its bold simplicity and directness.

Most of the other artists featured are a lot less well-known. Emile Cardinaux's poster for *Die Wilden Schwäne* reminds us that Middle European Art Nouveau has its delicate rococo side as well as its dark passions. Ludwig Lüthi Altenberger's elaborate design to advertise a Munich art dealer, combining rather oddly some peasant-like formalized cut-outs with a nude lady on an elephant, has a fetching unexpectedness. And Dagobert Peche's poster for a series of concerts in Vienna in 1920, as well as being very decorative, offers an interesting historical sidelight in that of the composers listed Kornfeld and Schreker are well enough known to be left at a surname while Arnold Schoenberg has to be specified. Or was that merely a design consideration? It makes one wonder.

For Graphic artists in Britain from the Twenties right up to date, *Radio Times* has been a constant standby and faithful patron. Few have been so grand as to refuse it altogether, especially if, as with Paul Nash, Rex Whistler or McKnight Kauffer, they were brought in for some special job like the cover to a Christmas number. Others, again, contributed some of their best work to the pages of *Radio Times*: in the show of original artwork from six decades at the Victoria and Albert Museum, until February 24, the dominating figure undoubtedly is Eric Fraser. With his extraordinary variety of subject-matter and his crisp, unmistakable woodcut style (though few if any of his works are woodcuts), he would surely have much to say in critical formation if he had worked in a less ephemeral form. But he could hardly have given more pleasure; and finally that perhaps is what counts.

John Russell Taylor

DIE WILDEN SCHWÄNE  
Dramatisches  
Musiktheater  
Text von  
E.L. Weill

## Concerts

Philharmonia/  
Ashkenazy

Festival Hall

depth, though with a cleanliness of attack that kept it from being at all stodgy, and particularly again in the Mendelssohn, there was a confident grasp of how important proportion and weight are to the projection of melody. Given their skill here, I would have liked to have heard them in some real baroque and classical music, not just in Mendelssohn's very appealing counterfeits.

Max Harrison

## Nash Ensemble

Wigmore Hall

A programme emphasizing the known, rather than the obscure or forgotten drew an outside audience on Saturday night for the last of the Nash Ensemble's six concerts that have played so stimulating a part in the current Russian series at Wigmore Hall.

The only other possible disappointment was that an orchestra from half-way round the world should sound so little different in terms of musical approach from one nearer home, but merely better. That, however, is a comment on the standardization of our musical culture, and there was at least a taste of regional fare in Peter Sculthorpe's *Lament*, composed for this ensemble in 1976.

I had heard nothing of Sculthorpe since the 1960s, when he was into south-east Asian music and bright simple soundscapes. Evidently things have changed. This *Lament* — claimed by the composer as one of his favourite recent works, which was nice to know — had more to do with Brahms than Bali. It is a very unambitious, little, slow movement dwelling on a cello theme that Sculthorpe would like to think reveals "a characteristic debt to Mahler", perhaps forgetting that Mahler's ideas tended to be considerably more sophisticated and very much more fully developed.

Paul Griffiths

## ECO/Kraemer

Queen Elizabeth Hall

The first movement of Mozart's Symphony No. 32 was given a dance-like lift by Nicholas Kraemer and the English Chamber Orchestra on Friday. Yet there was no lack of due weight, least of all in the development section, where the composer appears to indulge some stray anticipations of the finale of the Jupiter Symphony. The Andante, although the ECO strings produced a lively tone, as usual, just missed the requisite warmth, but the Minuet sounded quite bucolic.

After music with such an Austrian accent, No. 33's finale seems almost like a tarantella, although Mr Kraemer unobtrusively pointed out the difference between the hurtling triplets and the movement's underlying 2/4 pulse. Such finesse of ensemble was not immediately apparent in Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 27, and some features of the opening tutti were less decisively shaped than one might have wished. Michele Beogner started rather prosaically, too, and there were some flat and literal statements from the keyboard.

However, things gradually warmed up, if one may use such an expression of music as angelic as this. What happened was that the major-minor key equivocations of the development section drew ever more engaged playing from soloist and orchestra. Not surprisingly, this carried over into the Largo, where from the start, both Miss Beogner and the ECO achieved a poise and depth of expression that were rather exceptional.

The economical virtuosity of the pianist displayed in Mozart's finale served different ends in Fauré's early Ballade. This is a one-movement piece in which the soloist is constantly at work, but the expression is predominantly lyrical. Despite the successful aspects of the Mozart performance, one felt that Miss Beogner had a closer affinity with Fauré and it was a pleasure to hear the Ballade.

Finally came Richard Strauss's *Metamorphosen*. "Autumnal" scarcely seems

## Theatre

## Subsidized sparkle

Moon Mill

pulting himself back into the upper regions.

My feeling that Miss Aiken has overreached herself this time was strengthened by finding that the mill is occupied by a Nobel scientist and his ballerina sister, both busily grinding corn even though there is no village for miles around; that Lucifer's imp turns up in the shape of a schoolboy kidnapped by his divorced father; and that even the local garage man goes in for devil-raising.

The plot is heavily overloaded at the expense of character and dialogue. What remains undimmed is Miss Aiken's authority as a story teller. The events may cross like tracks on an old map, but she never loses her power to say: this is what happens next. Nicholas Barber's production contains some stridently pushing performances, but it also conveys a strong sense of ceremonial magic calmly supervised by Hazel Penwarden, a white witch to her fingertips.

The piece is built on the idea of mills as ancient sources of power, linked with the mysterious "ley line" trackways criss-crossing the country. The mill in question is threatened with demolition as it stands on the site of a proposed East Anglian airport; the author of this bit of bureaucratic villainy being Lucifer, who sees the mill's lift-off as a means of cat-

A Distant Applause

La Bonne Crêpe

The room is too small. When the word gets out, and the success of the theatrical incubator that is part of Carlo Lanza's restaurant, La Bonne Crêpe on Maddox Street, W1, becomes known, it will not hold the people who would enjoy the results. As a sort of one-man Arts Council, Mr Lanza has been subsidizing a songwriter, a playwright and a string of actors. They work hard as for their subsidy, sometimes as waiters, but every step of their progress is visible in the shows which play from Wednesday to Saturday evenings.

After something like 20 shows in two and a half years, the house playwright, Paul Prescott, has passed through the first stage of his apprenticeship to find his own voice. In *A Distant Applause* that voice is distinctive: comic, patetic, musical and, most of all, entertaining. He tells an original story about a company team in an end-of-pier

show as they come to the end of a season and bring an end to their partnership.

In a sense, he is still springing from a cliché, but his craftsmanship transcends the familiarity of the scene. He sets the story firmly in place. While exploring the personal relationship, he writes backstage banter and conversation which tellingly describes unseen characters, such as the next-door showgirl "aged somewhere between Hayley Mills and death".

The on-stage act is just original enough to show the position of the team, bringing life to a routine tattered by age while carrying the promise of greater things. Mr Prescott takes the part of the straight man, carrying a secret worry on-stage and off, and gets from his opposite number, Roland Viner, performance of such sparkling vitality and optimism that the whole relationship is absolutely convincing. This time *La Bonne Crêpe* is offering a portion of real theatre, not just a diversion between the pancake and the coffee.

Ned Chaillet

## Opera

## A Mimi untouched by the years

La Bohème

Covent Garden

Thursday could well have seen the return of Franco Zeffirelli to Covent Garden. Plans, kept under distinctly protective wraps, had been made for him to direct and design a new production of Verdi's *La Traviata*, which he wanted to dedicate to the memory of Maria Callas. The financing was only possible through a film, for the cinema rather than television, and the problems of fitting up studios, artists and costumes proved impossible in the time available. So a revival of *La Bohème* was whisked in instead.

Covent Garden is still likely to have its new *Traviata* — the designs are all there waiting but not for the moment. Zeffirelli's film version is probably coming first and the theatre will have to follow the



Strength and sadness: Cotrubas with Shicoff

hard by Lamberto Gardelli at some moments above everyone else. At first she has eyes for no one but Rodolfo, adoring him as he narrates the story of his life at the cast of a glance. He writes

fine verses and she only creates artificial flowers; it is no consideration that they both come from paper.

Nell Shicoff, who has sung many roles more demanding than Rodolfo, was curiously

dark and slender, with large, expressive eyes, she looks charming in her swan feathers. What she seems to lack, however, is a clear view of the character of the role, or the means to put her idea across. She also appeared to be having difficulties with the technical demands of Act III. Perhaps working with Nureyev for their performance later this month may help her.

John Higgins

## Dance

There are Leslie Hurry's designs (though I am not sure that these are the very best version) and there is the fact that, by not taking a very positive dramatic viewpoint, Morrissey gives the leading characters the opportunity to allow their personal interpretations to shape through more clearly. David Wall has probably danced the role of Siegfried more often than any other member of the company, yet he still manages to bring to

Wall. In the pas de quatre Michael Batchelor and Phillip Broomhead gave the best performance I have seen for a long time and Ravenna Tucker was charming in the first girl's variation.

Nice performances also came from Fiona Chadwick and Rosalyn Whitten in the pas de trois, although I wish Whitten could look a little less through when she dances.

Marguerite Porter certainly has the looks for the role of the Swan Queen. Tall,

dark and slender, with large,

expressive eyes, she looks charming in her swan feathers. What she seems to lack, however, is a clear view of the character of the role, or the means to put her idea across. She also appeared to be having difficulties with the technical demands of Act III. Perhaps working with Nureyev for their performance later this month may help her.

Judith Cruckshank

## Swan Lake

## Covent Garden

*Swan Lake* returned to the Covent Garden repertory on Saturday. While this production, supervised by Norman Murrice, cannot compare with the version recently premiered by the Sadler's Wells company for drama, logic, or straightforward theatricality, it does have some solid merits.

A watchful jealousy... A measured impatience for London... and literary and the most literate... West End offering in years... Robert Cushman, THE OBSERVER

84  
Charing Cross Road  
Amersham Theatre  
Box Office 01-855 1111

# Why we are backing Tebbit's bad Bill

by Brian Capstick

A member of the SDP Trade Union Reform Group

Social Democratic MPs will vote tonight with the Government in support of the Employment Bill, some of them reluctantly so because, despite its popularity with the electorate, the Bill is unlikely to do much to improve industrial relations. For the most part, it re-enacts the battles of years gone by, using the weapons of the period, and is largely irrelevant to the contemporary industrial relations scene.

The Bill's main provisions relate to trade union immunities and the closed shop, and in both cases its principal innovation is to open up the possibility of big cash prizes for the successful litigant. For the first time in recent years the Bill exposes unions themselves to legal action, so that employers who are victims of secondary or political action which the union has authorized can recover damages from the union's institutional funds.

In principle there is no reason why the Queen's Writ should stop at the door of Transport House, but the problem is that by aiming, as Mr. Len Murray put it, "at the heart" of the union movement, the Government is striking at the wrong organ. The heart of the trade union movement is a sclerotic but generally responsible affair, which is often seen at its liveliest

when superannuation is on the agenda. The real mischief in industrial relations is wrought not by the heart but by the arms and legs of the trade union movement, the local groups of activists and militant shop stewards. Mr. Tebbit's Bill will do nothing to restrain their activity, and may even encourage it.

One life-line which besieged employers have relied upon in the past is the (diminishing) influence which full-time union officials may bring to bear on shop-floor mavericks but, by putting union funds at risk through the activities of full-time officials, the Bill may force them to retire from the scene and make unofficial action even more difficult for employers to control.

As it happens, there is an incipient branch of law which may help employers to curtail unofficial action by groups of militants, and which does not touch the unions as such. Instead, it allows employers to respond to selective strikes than they can be now. An example is the Engineering Employers' Federation's proposal for layoffs in selective strike situations, a possibility which is absent from the Bill but which is now being actively considered by the Social Democratic Party.

Another difficulty has been foreseen by Mr. Tebbit himself. It is that union coffers are generally light, and unlimited awards of damages would soon bankrupt many of them. Even Mr. Tebbit appears reluctant to do away altogether with his traditional sparing partners, and has therefore put a financial limit on what may be recovered in any given proceedings. Unfortunately, the law relating to industrial disputes is rife with situations where half a dozen different plaintiffs may start action as the result of the same or connected incidents.

A number of "different" proceedings makes nonsense from the union's point of view of any limit imposed on each one of them, and damages of millions of pounds could easily mount up as the result of a single incident.

A related problem has to do with the sheer complexity of modern labour law. No more touch the unions as such.

Instead, it allows employers to respond to selective strikes than they can be now. An example is the Engineering Employers' Federation's proposal for layoffs in selective strike situations, a possibility which is absent from the Bill but which is now being actively considered by the Social Democratic Party.

The Bill does not provide tax-free awards of between three and four years' net pay (average income) for closed shop victims, a generous award by any standards and difficult to justify by comparison with the paltry awards handed out in race or sex discrimination

cases or unfair dismissal cases generally.

The Bill also introduces the idea of five-yearly reviews by ballot, a proposal which dismays some employers because of the union militancy, which the prospect of such a ballot is bound to encourage, and the damage done to stable collective bargaining if the result is a split into multimillion. One is hard put to see what need there is for these ballots when genuine conscientious objectors already have a quite independent right to opt out of the union and claim the same compensation if they are dismissed.

The second limb of the Bill beefs up the compensation to be paid to the victims of the closed shop. What is most lacking in the Bill, and in almost all discussion of it, is a sense of proportion about this issue. The worst evils of the closed shop, such as the well-known British Rail cases, are largely a thing of the past and were due as much to management ineptitude as to union militancy. Most modern union membership agreements allow for extensive exemptions, and dismissals for non-membership are rare, being frequently provoked by the "victim" when they do occur.

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In many respects, therefore, the Bill is ill thought-out, but then, as one MP noted, most bills are, and this seldom deters governments. On balance, the feeling of the SDP is that the Bill's basic provisions for compensation for closed shop victims and some limit on union immunities are along acceptable lines, but that the Bill is sadly irrelevant to the more pressing issues of the day.

Its potential for harm could be very much reduced by amending some of its details with the result that the SDP's best course is to support the Bill, albeit with reservations, and promise a review of the legislation if, as some predict, the cure turns out to be worse than the disease.

businessmen are facing bankruptcy, and that the spectre of redundancy is looming over some of the professions, the fact remains that unemployment is still an overwhelmingly working-class experience.

Throughout the twentieth century, the middle classes have remained consistently better off, better treated at work and healthier than the working classes. They have longer holidays, lower blood pressures, thinner figures and higher incomes than the national average. They have also, in a society which is supposedly becoming more classless, held their commanding positions in the major institutions of the country. The proportion of those in the higher echelons of the Establishment, such as judges and senior civil servants, who were educated at public schools has actually increased over the past period.

Could another factor in the regained confidence of the bourgeoisie be the psychological boost given by Mrs Thatcher's election victory in 1979? After all, her election campaign involved a passionate appeal to middle-class values and a repudiation of the bourgeois guilt implanted by left-wing commentators and intellectuals. Were not the Conservatives put into power to make the middle classes respectable (and rich) again?

In fact, studies of the pattern of voting in 1979 show that it was not the case that the middle classes rallied to Mrs Thatcher. The swing to the Conservatives was actually highest among skilled manual workers in the C2 socio-economic class. In the professional and managerial AB classes there was a swing of 1.5 per cent to Labour.

The fate of the Middle Class Association, a campaigning pressure group set up by John Gorst, Conservative MP for Hendon North, in the autumn of 1974, illustrates how widespread these guilt feelings were. From the outset it was bedevilled by doubts among the membership about its name. Gorst saw those doubts as symptomatic of the dire straits into which the middle classes themselves had fallen. "My colleagues in Parliament blush when you mention 'middle class,'" he said. "They can't call a spade a spade any more, although they still talk of the working class."

It is also doubtful if it is

Thatcherism that has been

primarily responsible for

restoring the middle classes'

sense of well-being and

confidence. One of the main

ways in which those in

professional and technical

occupations have increased

their earnings and main-

tained their differentials from blue-collar workers has

been by recourse to the

distinctly un-Thatcherite

weapon of trade union militancy.

There is also a strong case

for saying that the middle

classes have saved themselves

from decline not by returning

to the traditional bourgeois

ethic of enterprise,

ambition and commercial

drive exalted by Mrs

Thatcher, but by pursuing

rather different values. A

growing number of pro-

fessional people are decid-

ing to trade money for leisure

and to accept a lower

material standard of living

than their counterparts

abroad.

In a poll carried out for

The Times in June 1980, 60

per cent of middle-class

respondents (compared to

only 43 per cent from the

working classes) said they

would not work longer hours

for more money; 61.5 per

cent (50.5) said that they had

no ambition to be rich, and

30.5 per cent (18) said that

they had no ambition to earn

more than their present

earnings.

The middle classes' led

into the Industrial

Revolution and developed

the work ethic as a necessary

basis for life in an industrial

society. It may well be that

they will also lead the

country into a post-industrial

society where a new and

much less narrow philosophy

of life will be needed.

Ian Bradley

Ian Bradley's book The

English Middle Classes are

Alive and Kicking is pub-

lished today by Collins, price

£6.95.

## Petrol: must our children still be poisoned?

by Des Wilson

I was angered all last week after being handed a confidential letter by the nation's top medical adviser to senior Whitehall colleagues which warned in uninhabited language of the danger to children from lead in petrol.

Had the letter been made public at the time that it was written, we would now be on our way to lead-free petrol and our CLEAR (the Campaign for Lead-free Air) campaign would never have been necessary.

It is a highly significant letter for three reasons:

• First, while ministers

continue to say that there is no convincing evidence that low-level exposure to lead is a real threat to health, their own chief medical officer, Sir Henry Yellowlees, put himself, emphatically to one or two ministers. The use of lead in petrol is an issue of considerable public concern. It is probably the major public health controversy in this country today.

If an expert in believing that it publication would have caused a public outcry and forced the phasing out of lead in petrol, the its

confidentiality contributed to a disastrous decision. We, the taxpayers, employ the chief medical officer, not his Whitehall masters. Do we have a right to the publication of his advice on such matters before and after it is watered down or filed away in Whitehall? (In fact, this kind of affair emphasizes the need in this country for an independently run environmental protection agency as in the United States to maintain surveillance on public health matters outside of the influence of the Whitehall bureaucracy.)

Of course, Whitehall will claim that Sir Henry Yellowlees does not actually call for a complete ban, but surely the strength of his feeling

is in

the

lead in petrol debate?



Traffic pollution at its worst: in Britain 90 per cent of all airborne lead comes from petrol.

"the risk to children is now so great for me to take any other course" and the nature of the risk he spells out, speak for themselves. It is also the case that shortly after Sir Henry's letter was written lead levels in petrol were set for reduction by 1985, but they have been reduced five times and on each of the previous four it was later decided that the reduction was inadequate.

Other countries, Japan and, most recently, Australia, have all shown that lead-free petrol is perfectly possible and all have acted on the health evidence.

In Australia, as in Britain, the petrochemical industry fought the decision to ban lead in petrol by decrying the health evidence and exaggerating the costs and difficulties. It produced estimates of the costs that were proved to have been exaggerated five times. The Australian, however, to quote Sir Henry's words, "opted for lead-free petrol despite the substantial costs and the energy curtailment."

What are the facts behind the lead in petrol debate?

Lead is a neurotoxin, a lead-free petrol and all petrol stations are required to supply it. This is perfectly possible. Other countries are doing it — can anyone really claim that the Japanese car manufacturers have suffered? Indeed, some British car manufacturers are already manufacturing cars to take lead-free petrol for export markets that demand it.

As the chief medical officer confirms, there is a steady line of evidence, study reinforcing study, that at low levels of lead exposure, children, who are four to five times more vulnerable than adults to its toxic effects, can be adversely affected. They can become easily distracted, hyperactive, difficult to control, or suffer from reduced intelligence. There is also evidence of a link between lead in pregnant women and stillbirths. That evidence has convinced other countries and has convinced a growing number of doctors and scientists in Britain too.

The claim that a move to the limit of 0.15 grams per litre by 1985 is the quickest way of reducing lead levels is nonsense. By far the most effective way is to do what the Australians plan to do and reduce lead levels in fact it cost DM300m per litre while insisting that within four years all new cars

be manufactured to take lead-free petrol.

interests are being pitted

against the health and well-

being of our children and as

is so often, the case the

economic interests are win-

ning the day.

That evidence is even more complete now that the chief medical officer's opinion is publicly known. In my view the case is now unanswerable, not that there ever was a defence for distributing a poison over our cities in this irresponsible way. Were someone to propose it for the first time today, especially now that the full health effects are known, he would be given short shrift. These industries must be told that the practice is to be stopped as soon as possible.

Will it cost twopence, or threepence or fourpence more a gallon of petrol? Possibly. In any event, I cannot believe that the parents of this country would put the performance of their cars before the performance of their children. Rather I would answer this question with another. Is the mental health of our children negotiable?

I have referred to the Australian case earlier. In West Germany, for instance, they said it would cost DM1,000m to modify refineries to reduce the lead limit; in fact it cost DM300m per litre of their initial estimate. Powerful vested

interests are being pitted

against the health and well-

being of our children and as

is so often, the case the

economic interests are win-

ning the day.

It is not, it will be there again, in the form of Prince Charles, Margaret Thatcher, Dr Runcie et al on February 28 to recreate the centenary as part of the college's centenary celebrations. Also there will be successors or descendants of all the others recorded in the pages of The Illustrated London News at having attended the inaugural meeting.

Another glittering prize for aspiring authors — the £5,000 Sinclair-Brown award — and here it goes. Just write another *Animal Farm*, psychiatrist — in return for five Middlesbrough or Hard Times. A hambuger, five cheeseburgers and some potato crisps.

It came as payment for a contribution to *Punch* — a story about how Nicholas Fairbairn

n't keep  
niddle  
s down



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## SELL! SELL! SELL!

Nothing symbolizes the contrast between the public and private sectors quite as neatly as the events at Laker and British Airways last week. Laker, with a record of cutting costs and prices to the bone, was forced into liquidation. British Airways, which has been notoriously slow to cut its manning levels to world standards, was allowed to borrow an extra £53m under government guarantee.

Nothing would have been gained by converting Laker Airways into a pensioner of the state. But we can ensure that more of elements now in the public sector are taken out and exposed in future to the disciplines of the market. The Government's record so far has been disappointing. It has done little and plans less. The sales so far have been on the periphery, with the highly successful exception of the 51 per cent stake in British Aerospace. Over the next three years the Treasury is expecting asset sales of only £1,500m, a sign of the extent to which the early hopes of the Government have trickled into the sand.

The problems of Laker seem to have given new impetus to the Government's hopes of privatizing British Airways. These have been blown off course by the large losses which have been incurred in recent years by BA in common with other companies in the world airline

industry. Loss makers are never easy to sell; loss makers in an industry where everyone is losing money are clearly unsaleable.

However, the losses are not the whole story. Some of the features about BA which contribute to those losses are the results of bad management over the years.

A vicious circle has grown up. The company's losses mean that it cannot be sold off, while the fact that it cannot be sold off has become an extra reason for postponing the moves to create efficiency which it badly needs.

The Government ought to take urgent steps to put this right. Parts of the business, such as the helicopter operations, could be sold off even in today's difficult circumstances. For the rest, what is needed is a firm commitment to sell off the operation within the lifetime of this Parliament and a timetable to make sure that happens. The Government will have to accept that much that happens. The Government will have to accept that much of the money currently counted as loans to British Airways will have to be converted into equity if the flotation is to succeed.

A similar approach is needed in other parts of the public sector. The Government has not been good at converting its desires into action in such fields as the fringe activities of the railways, including hotels and ferries. There are large parts of the public sector which

cannot and should not be privatised. The railways are an essential public service and have to remain in public hands. Most of the gas and electricity industry fits the same description.

Those industries which remain in the public sector must be encouraged to become more efficient and allowed to carry out the investment they need to become efficient. There is no sense in keeping an industry in the public sector and then depriving it of the means to do its job properly.

But the need to give those concerns which are legitimately part of the public sector proper access to funds makes it all the more urgent to open up to private capital those which can be run privately. No one should expect that selling off British Airways or the country's gas showrooms will produce miraculous gains in efficiency. Some of the companies which go into private hands will fail. But others will get the chance to grow by giving the public better service.

Nor should the success of the programme be considered solely by how much money the Government succeeds in raising from it. The proper location of the boundary between public and private industry is one of the Government's most important and hitherto least successful areas of operation. It ought to show greater determination in its efforts to push on with privatization.

dependence on it, to force a more constructive course. It should bring more pressure to bear on the Salvadorean army to end its atrocities. And above all, it should force the regime to give up its refusal to negotiate with the guerrillas. The guerrillas themselves have now proposed negotiations, which they previously refused, and such negotiations have been widely backed, both inside and outside El Salvador, as the only way to resolve the country's difficulties.

The trouble is that the policy is not working. It is simply not possible to present a regime with such a murderous record as democratic. And next month's elections will not alter that fact, because it is not possible to hold fair and open elections in an atmosphere of repression like that in El Salvador today. More critically, the regime is even having difficulty in holding its own against the guerrillas on the military front. The guerrillas are entrenched in various parts of the country, and they recently achieved a spectacular coup when they succeeded in blowing up helicopters within a military base. The prospect, therefore, is of a prolonged and bloody stalemate, in which neither the regime nor the guerrillas is able to win a clear victory, and in which there is more and more death and misery among the population; or else of victory for the guerrillas.

It would clearly be unreasonable to expect Washington simply to cut off all aid to the Salvadorean government. That would mean virtually handing the country over to the guerrillas. But it should use the leverage that it has, by virtue of the regime's

dependence on it, to force a more constructive course. It should bring more pressure to bear on the Salvadorean army to end its atrocities. And above all, it should force the regime to give up its refusal to negotiate with the guerrillas. The guerrillas themselves have now proposed negotiations, which they previously refused, and such negotiations have been widely backed, both inside and outside El Salvador, as the only way to resolve the country's difficulties.

Such a course would be hard for the Reagan administration to accept, because of its reluctance to have dealings with Marxists. But it has to recognize the realities of Central America today, and the fact that there is a surge of opposition to the military regimes which held power for so long, with their close links to the United States. This opposition is helped by Cuba, and suits Cuba's purposes; but it has not been created either by Havana or by Moscow, and mere repression will not eliminate it. If Washington is prepared to deal with these new forces, in El Salvador, Nicaragua and elsewhere, it should be able to achieve a modus vivendi with them. If it is not, it is liable to find in the long run that its worst fears have been realized and that, like Cuba in the 1960s, they have turned to the guerrillas.

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wonder. They remember, as do many reporters who grew grey in the gallery, that the red meat of politics used to be flung into the cage late at night, in stand-up speeches and during long sittings in the small hours next day.

That was when Commons theatre produced its high drama in the division lobbies, when Barbara Castle and George Wigg

planned the public downfall of John Profumo, when George Brown had to be begged by friends not to resign, when Downing Street announced at 2.45am that British troops would land in Jordan 75 minutes later, when Ian Macleod, the new Chancellor, suddenly died, and when Clement Attlee announced he would fly to Washington to stop the Americans using the atomic bomb during the Korean war.

At that time London newspapers kept open their parliamentary reports until the last edition was about to roll; and *The Times*, with its strict rule that the gallery "box" should never be left empty no matter how long the House sat, always reopened the parliamentary page to give the time of "who goes home?" or even to say that the Commons still sat.

It seems to me, following politics one remove from the press gallery, that the reporting of half a parliamentary sitting even in some heavy papers carries risks of distortion, and their readers deserve some explanation as much as the readers of many provincial evening papers, which now roll off main editions before the Commons even prays and sits, needs some explanation of the total absence of any Westminster news except political comment, usually speculative or peripheral. Television and radio news flashes, with slots measured in seconds rather than minutes, are no substitute for the printed word if politics are to be taken as a serious study or interest.

In the end, politics and politicians clearly puzzle that newspaper priorities for parliamentary reporting, as distinct from political reporting have shifted to question time and statements, which occur before tea time, and rarely to the opening speeches in a debate. No

parliamentary reporting, on all the evidence to hand, is to be explained partly by the ill that management is heir to in Fleet Street, partly by the decline in the standing of Parliament and parliamentarians and partly by the blessings of a new printing technology that I no more love than understand.

This is no place, or this is not the typewriter, to discuss why both evening and morning newspapers throughout Britain, facing competition from instant news on radio, have brought forward their edition deadlines at a time when their transparent interest must have been to put them back. But they have done so, obviously for sound managerial reasons.

Now does the new technology, so far, provide a solution. It tends to turn breakfast editions of Fleet Street papers into late editions of the evening paper, as it flagrantly does on the Continent. It also tends to pass control of the news flow from the reporter on the spot to technologists, who understandably want the alternating trickles and cataracts of news to reach their desks in an orderly way. "Dear George, please don't resign after midnight — the new technology can't cope with it".

One answer would be attractive to some, though not many, politicians: a radio channel wholly devoted to reporting parliamentary debates. Yet that is clearly not the answer. No students of politics can spend all their working hours listening to the longueurs of a debate, waiting for their special point of interest; and no one listening to the spoken word, however experienced, can manage without a printed text, perhaps summarized and sensibly explained.

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## British stance on EEC Budget

From Mr Robert Jackson, MEP for Upper Thames (Conservative)

Sir, The tone of Wednesday's Commons exchange about the European Budget (Parliamentary report, February 4) suggests that there may be a serious misunderstanding of the issues at stake.

The main point does not relate to the relatively trivial amounts of money over which the Council contends Parliament was acting *ultra vires* in adding to the 1982 Budget. This will cost Britain some £2.5m gross a month — but in net terms Britain should make a profit from this spending, including £5m for housing in Belfast.

Rather, the central issue concerns Parliament's attempts to challenge the way in which the Community expenditure is "classified", with the effect of limiting its budgetary powers over so-called "obligatory" expenditure on the common agricultural policy.

It is notorious that the CAP is not subject to proper budgetary control, leading to a 23 per cent annual growth in expenditure between 1976 and 1979. The Council has so far consistently been unable to resolve this problem within itself, either by obliging agricultural ministers to take account of the financial costs of their decisions, or by agreeing upon new and less costly policies. And, of course, this weakness of financial discipline over the CAP lies near the root of the overall imbalance in Britain's net contribution to the European Budget.

The CAP seems to elude the control of the governments in the Council. A *territorial* it is not subject to the control of the national parliaments.

In fact, the only way to impose financial discipline over the CAP is to make it fully subject to a normal process of Budget-making, so that the claims of agriculture can be properly weighed against other priorities, and so that an adequate measure of public accountability for public money spent by the European Community can be exerted through the European Parliament. This is what the Parliament is contending for, and it is to be hoped that in the interests both of Britain and of the Community as a whole, the British Government will support its efforts.

Westminster should not see every extension of the European Parliament's powers as a loss for itself, neither Parliament will lose from the developments now at issue. The principle of parliamentary accountability will be

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT JACKSON,  
4 Carlton Place, SW1.

## Canada's Constitution

From Sir Bernard Braine, MP for Essex, South East (Conservative)

Sir, The British Parliament, as Lord Denning concluded in his judgment last week, retains the power to repeal, amend or alter the Canadian Constitution contained in the British North America Acts, 1867 to 1930.

I know of no member of Parliament who is not prepared to give up this power, but we are asked to do more than this, if we enact the Canada Bill. We are expected to approve at Westminster, against strenuous opposition within Canada, a new Canadian Constitution containing a detailed Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

While we retain jurisdiction, therefore, we cannot be expected to enact so comprehensive a measure blindly and uncritically. We have not only the right but

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Abiding commitment to British Rail

From Mr T. R. Thomas

Sir, My grandfather, J. H. (Jimmy) Thomas, was a tough man. He was the signatory, on behalf of the railway unions, to the agreement dated November 6, 1918, which achieved the eight-hour day for railwaymen. It is this agreement, signed over 60 years ago, that is the root cause of the current dispute.

My grandfather was also, not in order of importance, a great railwayman, a great union man and a great patriot. He believed passionately and equally in the rights of the working man and the importance of a strong British economy.

Over the weeks of the rail dispute, I have often wondered what Grandpa's position would have been. I believe that he would not have called a strike that savaged the public, damaged the economy and (above all) jeopardised the future importance and viability of his own industry. In my heart I know that he would never have allowed this dispute to reach the levels of insanity that prevail.

In particular, he would never, as a good argumentative Welshman, have allowed what he believed to be a good case to go by default. He would have talked, and talked again.

Think on it Mr Buckton. Could you look me in the eye and say that Jimmy Thomas would have given you his blessing? And, before you say "irrelevant", look up the records and see what he achieved for your members.

Yours faithfully,  
TIM THOMAS,  
Friskey's Wood,  
Billinghurst, Sussex.

### From Mr Harley Sherlock

Sir, In your editorial today (February 4) you summarise the cause of the travelling public's present misery by referring to Aslef as "a doomed craft union".

But you show very little sympathy to the members of this union who, in the name of productivity, have given up nearly a third of their jobs in the last 15 years. Surely they are by now entitled to some assurance from the Government that the necessary capital investment will be available to ensure that British Rail becomes more productive through the use of better equipment and an increase in custom, not just through the shedding of labour.

The Government, as paymaster, also has its rights and cannot be expected to sign a blank cheque without some positive sign that words about increased productivity are going to be translated into deeds. It is important therefore that the present calamity should be made the occasion for everyone to look beyond their entrenched positions and to decide whether they

He has, however, reaffirmed the solemn and binding nature of the obligations owed by the Crown in Canada to the Indians, Metis and Inuit nations. He gave us at Westminster the broadest hint when he concluded that "No Parliament should do anything to lessen the worth of these guarantees".

A petition by Indian chiefs which I presented to Parliament on January 22 contains incontrovertible evidence of past extinguishment of native rights and there is disturbing evidence that Canadian governments intend to terminate these rights when they have the power to do so.

Our moral duty at Westminster is clear: we must play our part in ensuring that the guarantees affirmed by Lord Denning can never in the future be broken.

Yours truly,  
BERNARD BRAINE,  
House of Commons.

February 2.

with sustained expansion of the area. They have been joined by major competitors from the USA and Europe, introducing new skills and expertise needed to diversify and multiply the economic development of a highly productive indigenous workforce.

I am an active participant in the Hong Kong Trade Advisory Group (HKTAG) of the British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB) promoting and developing British export trade.

Hong Kong recognises that total trade development means exactly that; representative responsibility encompasses inter-connected trade promotion of exports and imports, industrial investment, financial services, communications, transport and distribution, and knowledge of infrastructural development in both public and private sectors over the next ten years. The most important priority is identification of economic growth areas and anticipated forward demand patterns and supply requirements in both import and export

American Airlines are reported to have found that they need only 58 per cent of the employee hours for which they pay.

As a result of the lack of price competition, grossly excessive staff costs are even more prevalent in Europe. We should support the EEC Commission's scheme of "country of origin" fares, as the most promising solution to this problem. Most of Britain's airlines have started to slim themselves, and so will be able to exploit the opportunities that would arise.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANK MCKELLAR,  
Senior Representative UK,  
Hong Kong Trade Development Council,  
14-16 Cockspur Street, SW1.

### Conserving the countryside

From the Chairman of the Countryside Commission

Sir, Your perceptive second leader, "Cambria's untrdden way", of February 2, goes a long way to answer points made in the letter from Alan Mattingly, of the Ramblers' Association, which you published on the previous day. But your readers could still be under three misconceptions about the plans of the Countryside Commission.

First, Mr Mattingly says we are closing our regional offices. In fact we are closing two, leaving seven offices in England and one in Wales, with some corresponding boundary adjustments. This is in response to staff reductions imposed on us; in fact, a larger proportion of our rather smaller staff will be in regional offices in future.

Secondly, it is quite untrue to state that the commission is becoming heavily involved in wildlife conservation; our policy continues as previously in furthering the conservation and enhancement of the countryside's natural beauty and amenity of which the wildlife is an integral part.

Thirdly, the reference to "a switch in priority from recreation to conservation". That is correct, for we do plan to put rather more of our resources into countryside as the prerequisite for its enjoyment; and we believe our sense of priorities accords with that of the public at large. But Mr Mattingly and the rambling fraternity need have no fear that their interests will be forgotten. Most of our grant aid is currently for recreation footpath improvement, creation of country parks and picnic sites, access to moorland, heath and woodland for example — and they will continue to be important features of our programme after we become independent of the Civil Service this coming April.

Yours faithfully,  
DEREK BARBER, Chairman,  
Countryside Commission,  
John Dower House,  
Crescent Place,  
Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire.

February 4.

### University challenge

From the Director of the London School of Economics and Political Science

Sir, Professor Robin Marrs's brilliant defence of Britain's universities (feature, February 5) is correct in its facts and impressive in its arguments. I wonder whether you would be prepared to give Sir Keith Joseph a chance to make his case in your columns — if indeed he has anything to say.

More particularly, I for one should be interested to know why it is that successive governments of Britain have, to use Robin Marrs's words, turned against the things which the country does particularly well.

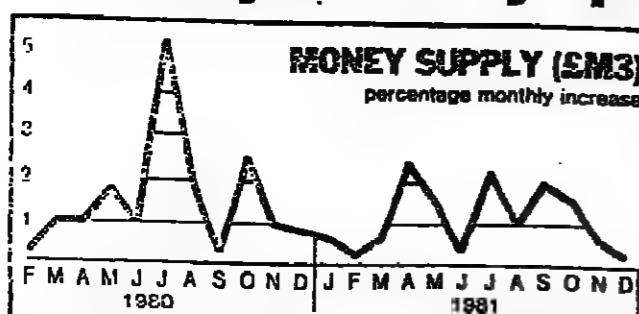
Yours sincerely,  
RALF DAHRENDORF, Director,  
The London School of Economics and Political Science,  
(University of London),  
Houghton Street, WC2.

February 5.



## BUSINESS NEWS

### M3 likely to rise by 1pc



The Bank of England publishes tomorrow its preliminary estimate of the growth in sterling M3, the broad measure of banking money, for the banking month to mid-January. Many City estimates look for growth of 1.1 per cent. Figures for the London clearing banks will give some idea of the buoyancy of bank lending to the private sector, but the figures are likely to underestimate the true trend because of the large scale purchases of mercantile bills by the Bank of England in its open market operations.

### Sangers shake-up expected

Sparks look certain to fly at the special board meeting at Sangers, the loss-making pharmaceutical group, called for tomorrow. On the agenda is expected to be the invitation for Mr Tom Whyte, who holds 24 per cent of the shares, to join the board and a call for the resignation of several of Sanger's directors and Hill Samuel, its financial advisers.

Mr Whyte, former head of the crashed Triumph Investment Trust, last night expressed dissatisfaction with Hill Samuel's financial advice and complained that the last chairman's report had made no mention of the group's mounting financial losses. Mr Whyte bought his stake in Sangers in July when he believed a recovery was on the way in the United States pharmaceutical industry. Mounting costs and competition have resulted in losses so far of £1m in the six months to August 31.

Since then he has recommended the appointment of Mr Philip Saul, a lawyer, and Mr Brian Flynn, an accountant, whose brief is believed to include the sale of the main loss makers and realization of assets.

### ACC warms to Ronson

Speculation was growing yesterday that a majority of directors on the board of ACC was now prepared to accept Mr Gerald Ronson's bid of £46m against the earlier offer from Mr Robert Holmes & Co of £36m. Mr Holmes & Co has also been asked by shareholders of TVW Enterprises, his television offshoot, why he has not taken up Mr Ronson's higher offer.

• SE Labs (EMI), the telecommunications equipment manufacturing subsidiary of Thorn EMI, has changed its name to Datatech.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Realignment at Imps

##### LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 578.8 up 3.3  
FT Gilts 65.15 up 0.20  
FT all share 329.93 up 1.21  
Bargains 23,166

Imperial Group should show an improved second-half performance in the full-year figures for the year to October due on Thursday. Analysts are looking for profits of £100m against £127m in 1980.

Unexpectedly poor first-half results, when profits had slumped from £70.7m to £29.7m, led to reorganization plans which could result in £130m of food division. There are also rumours that the poultry division will be shed.

As the British tobacco market had continued to shrink, Imperial's margins have been helped by price increases last September and again in January, but there is still the possibility of further redundancies in the tobacco division.

Evidence of better cigarette earnings in the United Kingdom in the second half came last week from Gallaher whose trading profits were up from £20.7m to £24.7m.

There should also be an improved performance in the second half from Howard Johnson, the United States subsidiary, where operations, which include hotels, restaurants and food manufacture, are heavily dependent on summer traffic.

Analysts expect the dividend to be maintained at 18.3p for the year with an improvement in profits during 1982. Earnings before tax are expected to rise with estimates ranging from £11.5m to £13.0m.

How far-reaching the reorganization plans of Mr Geoffrey Kent, the new chairman, are will be critical. His new strategy has not

##### DIARY

##### OTHER EXCHANGES

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,385.70 down 2.68  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,801.88 down 32.82  
New York: Dow Jones Industrial average 851.03, up 4.00 (Friday's close)

##### BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY: Interims: Samuel Heath and Sons, Home Farm Products, Meat Trade Suppliers. Finals: Broadstone Investment Trust, Lancashire and London Investment Trust, Manchester Ship Canal, U.C. Investments.

TOMORROW: Interims: Amstrad Consumer Electronics, Crouch Guidhall Property, Wm Jackson, Donald Macpherson.

Finals: Aaron Bros, Crescent Japan Investment Trust, Crest Nicholson, Ladies Pride Outerwear, New Tokyo Investment Trust.

WEDNESDAY: Interims: Ashley Industrial Trust, Benn Bros, Epicur Holdings, Grappler, Heelmat, Leaderfash.

Finals: BOC Group, General Consolidated Investment Trust, Lowland Drapery, Securicor Security Service, Yeoman Investment Trust.

THURSDAY: Interims: Christie-Tyler, Christy Brothers, R. M. Douglas, Hamilton Oil of Great Britain, Imperial Group, Mining Surplus, Mounleigh Group.

Finals: Lonrho, River and Mercantile Trust, River Plate and General Investment Trust.

FRIDAYS: Finals: Alexanders Holdings, Brook Tool Engineering, Revon Inc, Wagon Finance Corporation.

TUESDAY: key indicator during the week is the money supply figures. The City appears to be looking for a rise in January of 1 per cent or under in the growth of sterling M3 which has grown at an annual rate of 15% per cent in the last 10 months compared with a target of between 8 and 10 per cent Central government borrowing figures for January.

FRIDAY: Retail price index published. It will show whether inflation in Britain is still going up or whether the 12 per cent level seen in November and December was the peak.

## Strike may lead BL to halt new trucks investment

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The board of BL could decide this week to withdraw investment approval for the company's new range of light trucks, a move that would lead to more job losses and closures in the strike-hit commercial vehicle operation.

After two weeks of strike action, it is clear that the future of BL truck-making hangs in the balance and directors will argue that without some further streamlining, the entire BL recovery plan could be knocked off course.

A decision on the 7-12 tonne light truck range is due from the BL board on Wednesday when it meets for the first time since the strike began. The truck range is due on the market late next year and will complete the Leyland Group's model replacement programme.

About 12,000 Leyland workers at three plants — Bathgate in West Lothian and Leyland and Chorley in Lancashire — are on strike in protest at the company's decision announced in November by Mr David Andrews, the BL executive vice-chairman, to sack 4,100 of the 22,000 truck and bus workers and restructure the business in a bid to staunch

mounting losses. Before the stoppage, Leyland was losing about £1m a week and a report on the group's finances is expected to be delivered by Mr Andrews to the board on Wednesday.

Talks last week between management and union officials which followed the presentation by shop stewards of an alternative strategy for Leyland ended in deadlock and will not be resumed until next Monday.

Meanwhile, failing the success of behind-the-scenes discussions at Bathgate, it is expected that some board members at Wednesday's meeting will advocate the closure of the Scottish factory and push for manufacturing to be centred at Leyland.

This would also entail a substantial reappraisal of BL's capital spending plans.

During the next four years, the company has estimated total capital investment at £1,435m, of which £300m is earmarked for the Leyland group.

Of the latter, about £108m is to be spent at Ashok Leyland, the Indian truck operation, which is 50.6 per cent owned by BL.

BL said last week that the loss of the JCB business would add 200 to the 1,365 job losses already announced at Bathgate.

The troubles of the truck and bus subsidiary have been aggravated by a warning

Also at stake is a joint venture between Leyland and a leading engine maker, believed to be Cummins, for the production of a new truck engine. The deal was expected to be announced within the next few months with the Bathgate plant making some of the components.

Leyland's plight, which follows last year's slump in the commercial vehicle market, has been underlined by figures just released which show that while total United Kingdom truck and bus sales rose in January by more than a quarter compared with a year earlier, BL's share fell from 20 per cent to under 16 per cent. Ford increased its share to a record 44 per cent.

Further pressure on the strikers has come from senior management and shop stewards at BL's Jaguar factory in Coventry which is dependent upon supplies of six-cylinder engine blocks from the Farnborough foundry at Leyland.

Jaguar, which has reduced the official price of its crude oil by \$1 a barrel in an attempt to boost exports, the Middle East Economic Survey reported yesterday.

The authoritative weekly oil newsletter said the National Iranian Oil Company telegraphed the cut in official prices to its customers on Friday.

The new official prices, on the basis of 30 days' credit

are \$33.20 a barrel for Iranian light and \$31.20 for heavy.

The breach on the worldwide official price structure, both inside and outside Opec, was fraught with "weighty consequences" for the international oil scene, already witnessing a continued slide of spot prices. "Though where it will end is far from clear."

It added that because of conditions in the spot market, Iran's price cut was not large enough to attract as many new buyers as it hoped.

## Sun Oil may merge North Sea interests

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Sun Oil, the tenth largest oil company, has been considering merging its North Sea interests with an independent British oil company to create a "third force" in the British oil industry.

There has been speculation recently about Sun's future North Sea involvement — and in particular about the fate of its principal asset, the Balmoral field in block 16/21, 150 miles north east of Aberdeen.

Development plans for this year, which could eventually prove to contain more than 100 million barrels of oil, are reliably expected to be submitted to the Department of Energy later this year.

Speculation that Sun might give up the operatorship of the field or selling part or all of its 63 per cent interest in the block has been prompted by two recent events.

One was the resignation of Mr David Williams, the British geologist in charge of Sun's North Sea exploration. The other was a larger-than-expected £28m rights issue by Clyde Petroleum, one of the partners in the field.

Sun has denied that it was giving up the operatorship of the field, and has insisted that no part of its stake was up for sale. However, it is reliably understood from industry sources that the company, with the full knowledge of Energy Department officials, has been talking with more than one British independent company over several months.

One idea under consideration is a merger in which Sun's interests would be combined with those of a second-rank British exploration company such as Lasmo, creating a new company with assets of several million pounds. Under this arrangement, Sun would keep a minority interest in

## Reagan budget faces difficult passage

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Feb 7

Early Congressional reaction to President Reagan's budget proposal from both Republicans and Democrats was dismay at the size of the projected 1983 deficit coupled with fears that it could well go higher.

Democrats were predictably sceptical about a budget which raised defense spending while cutting social programmes, but the key comment may well have come yesterday from a Republican Senator Robert Dole, the chairman of the Senate finance committee. "The Republicans I have talked with are frightened about the size of the deficit," he said.

He believed what the President had proposed was "a credible budget" but it needed "a lot of work". That means that even in the Senate, where there is a Republican majority, the President has a fight on his hands.

Congress is likely to attack strongly the 18 per cent rise in defence spending which is equal to more than a third of the budget deficit.

Senator William Armstrong, a conservative Republican from Colorado, put his finger on the general feeling as he said: "When hawks like me are talking about cutting military spending you know something is in the wind".

custom, although business at John Lewis's Oxford Street branch is up on last year.

One of the worst-affected industrial firms has been British Rail's own subsidiary Freightliner, which expects to be doing only 35 per cent of its normal business this week.

Freightliner, which takes 20 per cent of Britain's road and rail traffic, has lost over £2m in revenue in the first four weeks of the dispute.

Mr Malcolm Filsell, deputy managing director, reckons the Tuesday and Thursday disruption will lose the firm a further £1m a week. It is serious, he says, but remains confident that major customers will not be permanently put off.

The Coal Board, which transports 70 per cent of its coal by rail, says it has lost at least £3m by being unable to move 1.2 million tonnes — the equivalent of a week's rail movement. It costs more than £1 a tonne to stockpile coal.

British Steel reported little disruption except at Lackenby, Teesside, where production has been cut 40 per cent because of a combination of the rail strikes, a strike at the export terminal and lack of stockyard space.

Firms such as ICI and Ford, which transport a quarter or more of their goods by rail, said they were using other methods and were not inconvenienced.

Road haulage firms, which might be expected to benefit from rail disruption, complained that the sporadic nature of the train-drivers' action had created almost as many administrative problems as it had produced new custom.

## Retailers call for shop hours study

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The Retail Consortium, which represents 90 per cent of the retail trade, yesterday entered the growing controversy over extended shop opening hours and called for a government review before any new legislation goes through.

A shops Bill, due for second reading in the Lords tomorrow, could remove all restrictions on trading hours, leaving shops to open late in the evenings and on Sundays.

The consortium admits that the 1980 Shops Act has led to many anomalies but argues that lack of a consensus on shop opening hours should persuade the Government to set up a review before legislating.

This could take the form of a Royal Commission or a

motorways and trunk roads this year, and at least £30m of local authority works.

The Transport Ministry was partly to blame, he said, for not ensuring that schemes would be ready to take up the slack.

He added: "We don't think we need to convince Michael Heseltine (Environment Secretary) of the need for more works, but that is the familiar problem of the Treasury's blocking things."

The civil engineers do not agree that money is being underspent because firms are desperate for work and undercutting each other.

By Our Industrial Staff

## 'Business as usual' spirit lessens rail strike effect

### Coach hirers reap unseasonal benefits

By Rupert Morris

Industry is bracing itself for a fifth week of train-drivers' strikes with near equanimity — tinged only by the worry lest the drivers' escalation of their action should be matched by British Rail and lead to a total shutdown.

With 85 per cent of Britain's goods carried by road, two-day rail strikes are bound to have only a limited effect, even if the decision to strike on Tuesday and Thursday day this week instead of Wednesday and Thursday does, as expected, prove more disruptive.

For the vast majority, the strikes have been a nuisance, and the main effect has been to give a much-needed boost to coach companies, normally languishing from the tourist low-season, but suddenly frantically busy ferrying people to and from work.

The Confederation of British Industry's response was typically Churchillian. "The resilience of industry and its employees has not yet been broken", it declared, and went on to pay tribute to people's resourcefulness and ingenuity in finding ways of getting to work.

The increase in numbers of people driving to work has led to traffic jams in the cities, but many are sharing cars, and the most significant development, in the South-East in particular, has been the willingness of companies to hire coaches to bring their staff to work.

"It couldn't have come at a better time for us", Mr Bill Weller, Atlas Coaches' traffic manager said. "Our normal tourist work is down, but now we've got about another £1,500 a day coming in which we wouldn't otherwise have".

Regular coach services under the National Bus Company umbrella have enjoyed increased custom, but have only been able to put on occasional extra vehicles. Drivers cannot be recruited.

The company's biggest

commuters hit, but coach hirers are booming

extra 24 a day, and claims that attendances are 100 per cent in most

## BUSINESS NEWS

## RENT REVIEWS

## Calculated approach to long leases

Critics may well argue that Barnet Council's £17m sale of its interest in the Brent Cross shopping centre was politically inspired, but it does at least free the council from the intense wrangling over rent reviews now taking place there.

The whole question of rent reviews is a grey area in legal terms with relatively little case law and the inescapable fact that virtually every commercial lease ever signed has some quirk or loophole which can be exploited in negotiations.

Arbitration, such as has been required at Brent Cross, has become almost the norm, particularly in cases where the lease has reviews only at seven, 14 or even 21-yearly intervals instead of the standard five.

What has to be argued in such cases is the price the tenant should be paying for the benefit of such a long review pattern or, in other words, how much higher should the rent be than for an identical building on which there are reviews every five years.

This may sound simply less obvious point to consider, but the size of the building, the tenant who occupies 1,000 sq ft of offices held on a lease with 21-yearly reviews, for instance, may well be prepared to pay £13,000 per annum instead of a long review pattern lease.

In the first place the loading for a long-dated review has to be based on growth in the particular locality. The tenant of a West



Brent Cross: intense wrangling over rent reviews

end office building, where rental growth has averaged 10 per cent per annum is in a very different position than the tenant of a similar building in Wandsworth High Street, where there has been no appreciable rental growth over the past seven years.

A second and perhaps less obvious point to consider is the type of property in rental terms, and also estimates its market rental value, assuming a conventional five-year pattern.

Based on this compounded growth rate, he then estimates the market rental value of the property in five years' time and capitalizes the premium value which the tenant will enjoy on the unexpired 16-year term to the 21st year.

Then he discounts the capital value back to today's capital figure and revalues this discounted capital value.

He repeats the process for the 10th, 15th and 20th years to arrive at a rental figure which reflects the loading.

Gareth David

## BRITISH TELECOM

## Why Buzby is wooing the businessman

The reduction of transatlantic telephone charges last week by British Telecom is expected to benefit the businessman immediately and bring his costs more into line with the residential user.

Telephone calls to North America were cut by 33 per cent from February 1 and in May there is to be a reduction in some inland trunk rates. Telephone calls at standard rate beyond 56 kilometres will cost up to 20 per cent less and those made in Britain's 100 busiest trunk routes will be 33 per cent cheaper.

The business user has long subsidised the residential user. British Telecom has about 15 million residential subscribers but its 4 million business users generate

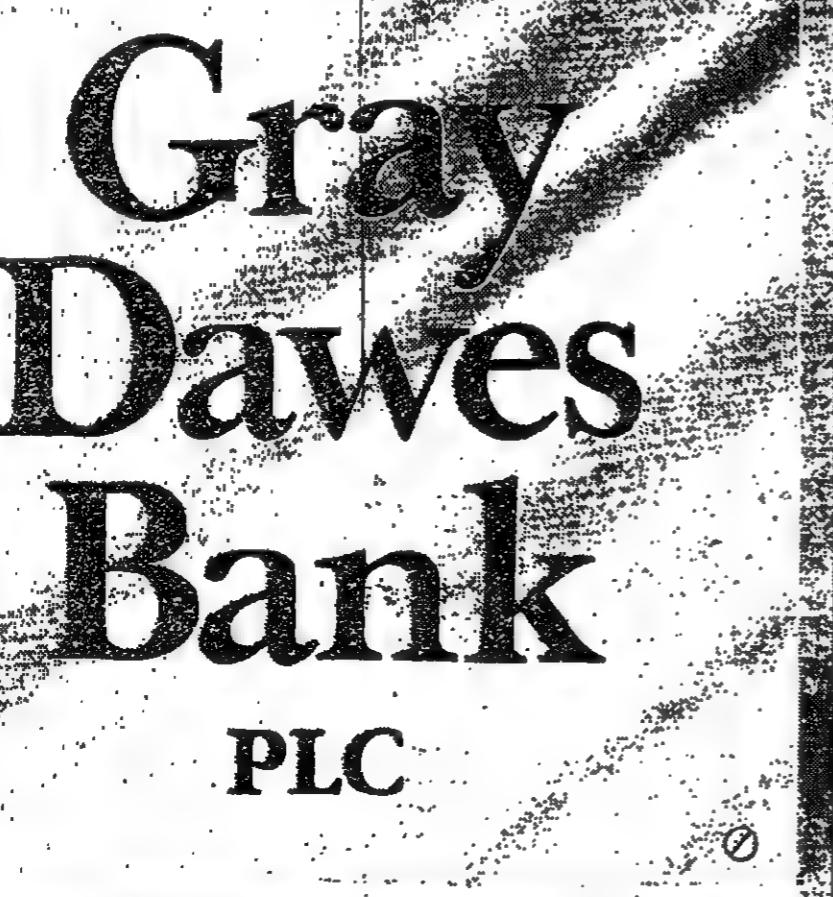
about 60 per cent of the corporation's revenue.

Apart from the desire by British Telecom to bring business rates into line with the domestic consumer, the corporation is ensuring that its rates are commercial, since private telecommunication network operators in the UK could soon open.

How soon in the future that will be no one seems quite sure but British Telecom is losing no time in giving its service a commercial edge before any potential competition even gets off the ground.

A consortium of Cable & Wireless, BP and Barclays Merchant Bank was formed last year and applied to the Department of Industry for a licence to operate a private telecommunications network.

Bill Johnstone



## moves

to a new address:

22 Bevis Marks, London EC3A 7DY  
Telephone 01-283 8765  
Telex 885253

## GAS

## Pressures mount in face of shortage

The European gas market, for long the subject of little interest to anyone other than those professionally involved, is rapidly proving to be one of the most important, and politically sensitive issues in the international arena.

Last week's gas deal between France and Algeria, coming hard on the heels of the diplomatic furore over the planned Russian gas pipeline into western Europe, has underlined yet again that gas supplies — and gas prices — are now matters that exercise the very highest levels of government on both sides of the Atlantic.

The heart of the matter is that western Europe as a whole, and France, West Germany and Italy in particular, can foresee serious shortage of gas supplies by the end of the 1980s. To guarantee supplies to meet the shortfall expected from 1985 onwards, they have to act now, given the long times involved and the nature of international gas contracts, which are usually fixed for at least 20 years, and sometimes longer.

At present natural gas accounts for about 18 per cent of EEC energy requirements. Demand is running at about 200,000 million cubic metres, and is expected to grow to between 300,000 million and 340,000 million cubic metres by 1990.

The problems for France, Germany and Italy is that European countries which could increase their production to meet their needs, notably Britain and Norway, have taken policy decisions not so far for a mixture of economic and security of supply reasons.

The need for France, expected to be 90 per cent dependent on imports in 1990, and Germany to sign new contracts is therefore imperative. Hence their hurry to sign up deals with the Soviet Union despite opposition from President Reagan and Algeria.

The price issue is more complex. Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries such as Algeria have long pressed (without success) to have gas contracts linked to the world crude oil price.

The French/Algerian deal, based on an estimated price of about \$5.10 per million BTUs, is about 51.50 below the equivalent oil price. It is slightly above the \$4.50 which Germany and France are thought to have agreed with the Soviet Union.

But the two governments are prepared to pay premium for their supplies. Gas prices have probably now peaked.

Jonathan Davis

## COMMODITIES

## Coffee price steadily improving

Just for a few blissful moments in the long and acrimonious history of commodity agreements, one seems to be working. Coffee prices are continuing to go better — but only gently. This steady improvement obviously suits the producers, while prices are still low enough by past standards to encourage consumption.

Not that anyone in the coffee business is feeling complacent. Battle lines are now being drawn up for the next set of International Coffee Organization talks next month. Inevitably some of the producers will want to alter the fine tuning on the quota arrangements agreed last September to try to engineer local improvements in their prices.

For the time being a reasonably comfortable balance between supply and demand has obviously been reached.

The International Coffee Organization's pricing system on quotas is well disciplined (there is currently little temptation to cheat — unlike the conditions of 1977 when prices rose over £4,000, or four times today's prices). So with high interest rates keeping dealer and industry stocks low, prices are sensitive to any short term hold-up in supplies.

Among the items that will probably be brought up at the March talks is smaller steps between trigger prices. The question of altering groupings of origins, so that quotas can be applied by type, will also be raised again.

At the sharp end of the consumer coffee market — the manufacturers are still having to work hard at the root of the whole of the soft commodity markets' problems. That is to persuade housewives to buy more.

United Kingdom manufacturers spent £12m last year on television advertising of brand changes. They boosted the market by 6 per cent. The latest product to be pushed is de-cafinated coffee, and perhaps the advertising boost this month will take some market share from tea, where the price is rising more sharply.

Sally White

## MARKETS ROUND-UP

## Nervous watch on money supply

It is even being suggested that South Africa has bought some Russian gold to prevent it reaching the market at present, but that seems unlikely as revenue from its own gold sales is plummeting and a large balance of payments deficit is looming.

It was announced in Parliament last week that standby credit facilities of Rand 223m have been arranged with the International Monetary Fund.

Nevertheless, the talk of a pact of some sort persists and it is pointed out that such an arrangement already exists over diamond sales. It is thought that it might even be expanded to include platinum, chrome and other metals.

With gold again expected to dominate the market, it is concern over money supply and interest rates is expected to continue to dominate Wall Street this week.

Last week the Dow Jones

industrial average dropped 20

points.



## PROPERTY INVESTMENT

## Hampton &amp; Sons

01-493 8222

## Stock Exchange Prices

## Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 25. Dealings End Feb 12. Contango Day, Feb 15. Settlement Day, Feb 22

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

TEAMWORK IN CONSTRUCTION,  
ENGINEERING, DESIGN  
AND ENERGY WORLDWIDE  
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WOODROW

ctball

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Celtic passion of forwards moves Ireland one step closer to triple crown and Wales away from the wooden spoon

## Dad's Army rekindle days of 1949

By Peter West  
Rugby Correspondent  
England 15

It was ironic at Twickenham that one crucial analysis, a marrow-bone conversation by Campbell from wide of the right across a tearing wind, should have decided the difference between success and failure on Saturday. That justice was amply done, by a goal, two penalty goals and a try to a goal and three penalties, no one can deny.

Ireland now have Scotland to bear in Dublin on Saturday week to put their hands on the mythical triple crown for the first time since 1949 and the days of Jackie Kyle and the remarkable Dickie Read. That year, Ireland completed the triple crown with a victory over Wales in Swansea. In 1948, when they won the grand slam for the only time, the title was played out also against Wales, at Ravenhill, Belfast.

Their impressive new leader, Charan Fitzgerald, observed that the triumphant progress of an impudent, tempestuous pack was especially rewarding for "a lot of senior guys who have done a lot for Irish rugby". In its speed and reversion to the loose ball, in its staying power, a season's trio affectionately known as Dad's Army enjoyed a superb afternoon which finished with Six Nations in his fifty-fourth international, relaxed and confident enough to act as an extra stand off.

Ireland mostly put their act together with a superb control of their opponents' movement to match. Our scrumming against Blakey was a key factor in denying England's mastodons the degree of superiority expected in the first half. On the purely factual count, Ireland led the lineout 27-17, with level points 10-10, in the second half. But that was a Pyrrhic English success as Smith, the deputy captain condemned to clear up a frequency mess, would be the first to testify.

Behind the Irish forwards, McGrath had a finely rounded day at scrum half, and Campbell one that his coach, Tom Kiernan, thought even more impressive than that against Scotland against Wales. The Irish backs from the start were more dangerous, only from broken play but the midfield tactics, notably from Campbell and Michael Kiernan, was just as good as that of McNeill, secure andainless.

In many respects, England had the clock back with an incompletely-disorganized performance that even Beaumont's presence could not have influenced. This relentless spectator could have done nothing about the half chances buried in handling errors, spreading contagion from the moment Silemen put down his first pass.

Even allowing for the speed and fury of the Irish defence, which too often lost England possession in the tackle, the losers seemed mainly to blame the misplays and doing things the complicated way. Davies did wondrously under pressure to make a late try for Silemen, but had a game which may be likened to that well-known curate's egg. Rose, who seems rarely to do things by halves, had an uneven

David Duckham comments:

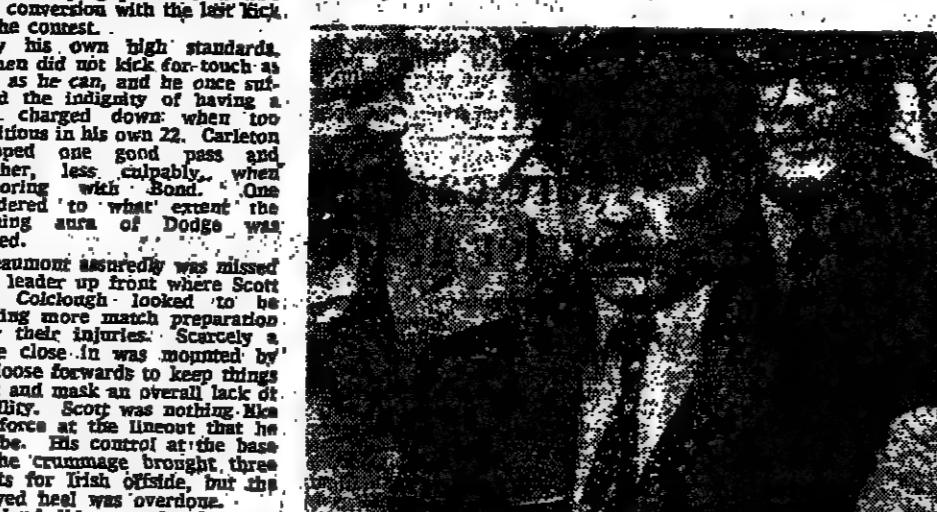
## England's selectors would be wise to resist change

The tenacious endeavour and aggressive spirit exhibited by Ireland in the suppression of their far from convincing opponents at Twickenham on Saturday underline the question of the season's championship. Notwithstanding the absence of their illustrious leader, Bill Beaumont, from whom his fellow players no doubt derive considerable inspiration, and the midfield pair of Paul Dalglish and the indomitable Rob, the confidence and durability to remain calm while under constant pressure.

Indeed, the more discerning observer might easily conclude that the England performances was a regressive step towards the de-



Grounded: Beaumont, England's injured captain, watches helplessly from the stands as MacNeill scores Ireland's first try.



Scoring a try: Silemen, from the stand, watches as Beaumont scores Ireland's first try.

pression of the past decade which resistance stagnated at a particularly low ebb. Yet the injection of much needed realism into the policy of team selection generated renewed self-assurance during the winter, and the new government, notably in the person of David Steel, has reluctantly come to a magnificently grand dam two years ago.

Over the weekend, the chairman of selectors, "Budgie" Rogers, faced the unavoidable responsibility of having to travel to meet France at the impending Parc des Princes in Paris on Saturday 20. Unquestionably, Beaumont and Dodge will be recalled, when the team is announced this morning, but Mr Rogers will have been, surely,

tempted to make other changes. The form of How Davies among others was surely the cause for some concern, and McNeill Rose and Scott. However, to identify them as the present at the present time would be a serious error, notably in the case of Davies, who, despite replacement by either Curwen or Horton would not necessarily supplant the England initiative.

Curwen is an exemplary non-unionist, a poor defender, but a good tackler, and mainly in his tactical kicking. Ideally, the fly half must be heavily imbued with both qualities. Scott clearly suffered from lack of international match fitness—a temporary disability, perhaps, which he has

time to rectify—and his control at the base of the scrum would be indispensable against the effervescent French. Rose, still requires more inspirational experience to fuel his confidence and his long-term prospects therefore look a more secure prospect than those of his present rivals.

The selectors would do well to remember that, if only to avoid the inevitable accusations of bias, which might considerably damage whatever the final judgement Beaumont and company are now confronted with two nations who historically have provided the most difficult European opposition.

## Jones kicks Wasps home

Superb defence, sharp counter-attacking and polished place kicking by their fly half, Jones, steered Wasps to an emphatic 24-11 win at Moseley on Saturday, and the 10th and 11th England two penalties and converting all three tries, scored by O'Reilly and Eaves.

After building an 18-4 lead downwind, Wasps spent the second half defending but were aided by some inept Moseley handling despite forward superiority. Wasps' third try, however, was Moseley's second came during injury time. Thomas and Gifford scored the home tries, while O'Reilly added a penalty—his

final success from six kicks at goal.

Nick Preston led Richmond to deserved 13-7 victory over Bedminster at Old Deer Park. Jones, the Wasps' fly half, converted from the line-out and a scrum, Richmond scored tries through Preston, and Robin Osborne. Colin Green converted one of his points tally with a penalty.

Handley, with John Eagle in form, on the right wing, found many of their attacks breaking down against Wasps' tackling and Moseley's long kicking. But they broke through for a try from Dick Jozwinski, and Gary Pickershill dropped a goal.

## Table tennis

### Mrs Hammersley recovers form, but loses title

From a Special Correspondent  
Nantes, Feb 7

Jill Hammersley lost her European Top Twelve title here today to add to the loss of her English Open title last month. The winner, Mrs Bettina Vriesekoop, a 20-year-old from the Netherlands, beat the 26-year-old, Mikal Appelgren, surprisingly, won the men's event. Desmond Douglas's challenge effectively disappeared after three defeats in the first two days, but the English champion later improved to finish third.

With a series of disappointing losses for Mrs Hammersley this season at the age of 30, the English seem to suggest that her heading of the end is not or the woman wind is probably the best player Hammersley has ever had. The fact though, do not point to the truth.

It was an encouraging performance for her to finish second and come within two points of beating Mrs Vriesekoop, whose advance the European number one taking this season made her an overwhelming favourite. Mrs Hammersley has had to negotiate retirement, a serious domestic set, and recently less of motivation, but for the first time in three years was buzzing again.

The most important association is that of a bar. She trained nine victories with it and lost 22-20, 17-21.

Miss Vriesekoop in the final match of the tournament that had 200 people, most of them, exercising their lungs in anticipation of two foreigners. It is only three weeks since she won the bar, identical to that

## Golf

### Sleeping partner awakes in firm of Golden Bear

From John Bellamine.

Plenty of "it" Nicklaus can finish like that, why not? It's the traditional "go to sleep" that's the sleeping giant in Nicklaus's career. He's not seen to stir until the situation absolutely demands it. The truth of the matter may be found in the description of his finish: "Scared like hell, thinking like that with that eagle, even though I didn't catch Johnny, is the height of enjoyment for me."

Miller is down the field here on 213 with Watson on 214. Bruce Lietzke slumped with a 79 at Spyglass which puts into perspective Nick Faldo's 72 there, which would have been a 75 had Faldo automatically qualified for this week's Hawaiian open. Peter Oosterhuis missed the "cut" by two strokes and will not play in Honolulu. Rest in peace.

Studer's card read: 4, 4, 3, 4, 3, 2, 4, 4-32; 4, 3, 4, 4, 2, 2, 4-32. He had six birdies and an eagle three at the 522-yard 10th at Cypress where he hit a three-wood to 12ft, and holed the putt.

THIRD ROUND: 206. C. Studer (71, 72, 70); 205. B. Watson (70, 71, 72, 71); 204. N. Faldo (72, 71, 72, 70); 203. J. Nicklaus (71, 72, 71, 70); 202. D. Palmer (70, 71, 72, 70); 201. G. Lietzke (71, 72, 71, 70); 200. J. Miller (71, 72, 71, 70); 199. J. H. Watson (71, 72, 71, 70); 198. C. Oosterhuis (71, 72, 71, 70); 197. B. Lietzke (71, 72, 71, 70); 196. J. Nicklaus (71, 72, 71, 70); 195. P. Oosterhuis (71, 72, 71, 70); 194. J. Miller (71, 72, 71, 70); 193. B. Watson (71, 72, 71, 70); 192. C. Studer (71, 72, 71, 70); 191. N. Faldo (71, 72, 71, 70); 190. J. H. Watson (71, 72, 71, 70); 189. J. Lietzke (71, 72, 71, 70); 188. J. Miller (71, 72, 71, 70); 187. C. Oosterhuis (71, 72, 71, 70); 186. B. Lietzke (71, 72, 71, 70); 185. J. H. Watson (71, 72, 71, 70); 184. J. Miller (71, 72, 71, 70); 183. C. Studer (71, 72, 71, 70); 182. N. Faldo (71, 72, 71, 70); 181. J. H. Watson (71, 72, 71, 70); 180. J. Miller (71, 72, 71, 70); 179. C. Oosterhuis (71, 72, 71, 70); 178. B. 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Liverpool look awesome as the title race gains pace but Southampton cling on to their newly-conquered peak

## Manner of Tottenham victory is bound to dismay West Brom

By Stuart Jones  
Football Correspondent

The championship picture changes with the speed of a slide show. The fortunes of Ipswich Town and Liverpool offer a near illustration. Two weeks ago Ipswich extended their run of success to nine wins, a club record, and with a pocketful of games to hand were threatening to run away with the title that eluded them last season. They have since been sucked into a black hole.

The absence of one centre half is serious enough but they have lost both Butcher and Moran, revealed on Saturday night. Butcher may not even play again this season. Now only has he broken his nose and severed an artery but he has also ruptured blood vessels. He is to undergo an operation on Friday night but, having lost nine pints of blood, was considered too weak.

With him and Osman, Ipswich's confidence is gone and their rhythm has gone. The problem has been exacerbated because on their way down, the FA Cup holders had the misfortune to bump into times into the holders of the European Cup, Liverpool, who are on their way up. Mr Robson sees Liverpool as the clear favourites now, although they are only third.

Yet the two sides were twelfth and Bob Paisley, in reference to the Manager of the Month award sponsored by a whisky firm, commented that he was "glad to receive the 'no bell'". More seriously, leading them to nine victories in 16 games this year, he was nominated for a record sixteenth time on Saturday. Mr Paisley suggested that, although the loss of key men, such as the loss of James' penalty, was decided by North County, whose crowd was only 70 above five figures.

That was only 850 more than those who saw Bristol City, in their bid for the youngest team in their history, after the departure of the Ashton Gate Eight, they drew against Fulham.

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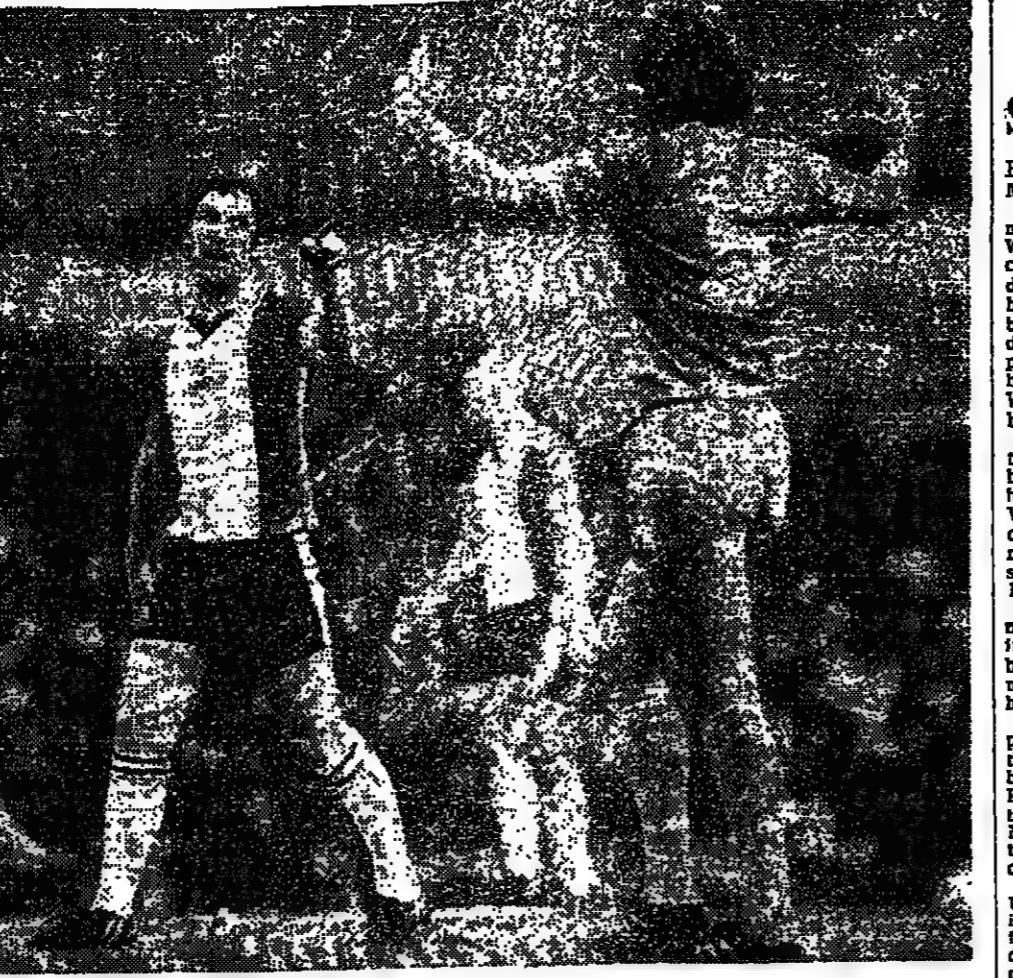
but not the captaincy, a position now filled by Wilkins. United may cut their huge playing staff by two if the intended deals involving McIlroy and Nicholl to Stoke City and Sunderland respectively, go through.

The staff at Wolverhampton Wanderers could be wondering about their own future. Under the guidance of their new manager, Ian Greaves, they were third in the White Hart Lane Villa helping to create the first of Tottenham Hotspur's six. Now that impressive victory will surely have heartened West Bromwich Albion. They are Tottenham's next visitors in the second leg of the League Cup semi-final on Wednesday.

Brighton were the only other convincing winners in the first division, taking a three-goal lead over Liverpool before Heath scored his first for his new club at the end. Arsenal, the most ineffective of Gunners, figured in yet another goalless draw but kept in touch with the leaders. Southampton City, Brighton, James' penalty, were decided by North County, whose crowd was only 70 above five figures.

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One miss by Ball brings a taunt from Bond; another miss receives more welcome appreciation from Southampton's manager Lawrie McMenemy in celebration

## Armstrong scourge of Manchester

By Vince Wright

Southampton C 1 Manchester C 1

Southampton's early FA Cup miss stiffened their resolve to win the League title for the first time. They came a little nearer their objective on Saturday by beating one of their main challengers, Manchester City.

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Miss Croft shows the stuff of champions

Cricket

## No expense spared on first ever Test in Sri Lanka

From Richard Streeton, Colombo, Feb 7

Sri Lankan cricket officials are sparing nothing in terms of expense and effort to make certain their inaugural Test match against England on February 17 is a success. Something like £100,000 is being spent on new stands and a new size by excavating part of an adjoining hillside and a pavilion and other stands have been constructed.

Sponsorship and a national appeal fund are helping to finance the project, which also includes improvements to the approach roads. Some unsightly mud and straw huts outside the ground are being demolished and new homes are being found for the 20 or so families who live there.

Sri Lankan cricket gained Test match status at last July's International Cricket Conference and by happy coincidence, 1982 marks the anniversary of two important developments in local cricket. British soldiers introduced the game to this island and the first club was formed 150 years ago. It was 100 years ago that F W Bligh's 1882-83 side established what became a regular in Colombo by playing a game in Colombo on the way to Australia.

Sri Lanka's captain for the Test match has already been chosen. He is Bandula Warnaupura, a right-hand batsman, who has been in the England team since summer. A recent three-day and five-day trial matches, a provisional Test squad of 34 players was reduced to 23, with five medium-fast bowlers among those dropped.

Sri Lanka's bowling strength lies in their spinners. There is little doubt that the Test match will be prepared by a ground staff that is aware women bowlers, will undoubtedly be a slow turner. England's programme starts with a three-day game at Kandy on Tuesday against a Sri Lanka Cricket Board President's XI. The one-day internationals of 45 overs will take place at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground, Colombo.

## Where grass roots should spread

Sydney, Feb 6. — The departing West Indies manager, Steve Camacho, warned Australian cricket authorities today not to neglect the Sheffield Shield competition between the states.

He said at the airport here as the West Indians left for London on the way home: "The Sheffield Shield is the grass roots of first-class competition here and should be strengthened and guarded."

"In an international season, with two countries touring here, the Shield could look second rate. But it is the nursery of your talent as the place where young promising cricketers get their chance to represent Australia."

Mr Camacho named Allan Border as the outstanding

## England's women fail to force the pace

Christchurch, Feb 7. — Australia, the favourites, retained the World Cup for women here today by holding off a strong challenge from England in the final of the month-long competition. England won the toss and batted first, reaching 151 for five wickets in their 60 overs, before Australia scored the winning runs in the last over of their own innings.

Jan Southgate held the England innings together with 53, although the England batting was generally tentative. England's most experienced player, Rachel Bell, 31, and age 32, was guilty of not finding the pace when England had wickets in hand, despite sharing an 87-run partnership with Southgate.

England, unbeaten in 12 qualifying games leading up to the final, had the world's second best record in the tournament.

There was some excellent work in the field by England and three of the seven Australian batsmen dismissed were run out.

Highlights of Australia's innings were the 37 scored by Jenny Jones, whose side was run out and a quickly completed 24 not out by Marie Cornish.

ENGLAND

5. Camacho, B (Capt.) ..... 151  
J. Bell, 31, 152  
J. Southgate, 2, 152  
C. Walmouth, 2, 152  
C. Goosens, 2, 152  
J. Jones, 2, 152  
R. Bell, 31, 152  
M. Cornish, 2, 152  
G. Hulme, not out ..... 152  
E. Evans, 0, 152, 152

Total (5 wickets, 60 overs) ..... 151

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-64, 3-83, 4-150, 5-151, 6-152, 7-152, 8-152, 9-152, 10-152, 11-2-31; 0, M. Cornish, 12-5-171, 13-0, P. Thompson, 13-2-34-0; L. Fullerton, 13-20-2

AUSTRALIA

P. Cornish, 2, 151  
S. Southgate, 2, 151  
J. Southgate, 2, 151  
C. Walmouth, 2, 151  
C. Goosens, 2, 151  
J. Jones, 2, 151  
R. Bell, 31, 151  
M. Cornish, 2, 151  
L. Fullerton, not out ..... 151

Evens (0, 151, 151, 151)

Total (7 wickets, 59 overs) ..... 151

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-29, 3-42, 4-42, 5-42, 6-42, 7-42, 8-42, 9-42, 10-42, 11-42, 12-42-1; 0, J. Southgate, 13-2-21; A. Starling, 11-2-21, 2, G. Hulme, 11-3-35; E. Batewell, 12-3-20, C. Hodges, 12-1-35; C. Walmouth, 1-0-0

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The Yorkshire sub-commit

Squash rackets

## Opposite sides of county fence for Kendal-born brothers

By Rex Bellamy

Yorkshire won the inter-county championship for the seventh consecutive year by beating Lancashire 3-2 in yesterday's final, sponsored by Cooper Vision at Lee-on-Solent. The Lancashire may have been slightly favourites by the margin because Yorkshire already had an improbable 3-1 lead when David Pearson confounded the national and world rankings by beating Ian Robinson 9-0, 7-9, 4-9, 9-4, 9-4 in a first-string match that had been deprived of some of its competitive value but ultimately was won and lost on merit.

Even without Christy Willstrop, who had been otherwise engaged in the men's junior championships at Kinsale Limerick, Yorkshire could still call on four of the top 13 men in the English rankings. Their entire team at Lee-on-Solent are among the world's 45 leading players. Lancashire were without the national champion, Philip Kenyon, but the chances are that Yorkshire's strength in depth would have been too much for them anyway.

Jamie Hickson, another competitor at Kinsale, was missing from the Surrey team who took Lancashire to a deciding rubber by 2-1, defeating Ian Salter (from a distant Arabic connection), who is a fortnight short of his seventeenth birthday, saved two match points in the fourth game and kept Steve Bateman on court for another 17 minutes.

While these two were still debating whether Lancashire

would acquire a 2-0 lead, the ever-sure Ashley Naylor prevented it by beating Mark Hornby next door. Naylor and Bateman in turn took Yorkshire out of a nasty corner. Bryan Pearson's searing, roaring home and David Pease then achieved a brilliant semi-final round.

**SEMI-FINAL ROUND:** Yorkshire 4, Lancashire 1. Yorkshire team: 1. H Robinson beat J Easter 8-10, 9-0, 11-9, 10-12, 11-9; 2. B Pearson beat A. Naylor 11-9, 10-12, 11-9, 10-12, 11-9; 3. D Pease beat M. Hornby 11-9, 10-12, 11-9; 4. D. Pearson beat M. Hornby 11-9, 10-12, 11-9; 5. Ian Salter beat Ian Robinson 9-10, 11-9, 10-12, 11-9, 10-12.

**FINAL:** Yorkshire 2, Lancashire 2. Lancashire team: 1. Ian Salter beat D Pearson 0-9, 11-9, 10-12, 11-9; 2. Ian Salter beat Bryan Pearson 11-9, 10-12, 11-9; 3. Ian Salter beat Bryan Pearson 11-9, 10-12, 11-9; 4. Ian Salter beat Bryan Pearson 11-9, 10-12, 11-9; 5. Ian Salter beat Bryan Pearson 11-9, 10-12, 11-9.

For a time yesterday it seemed that Yorkshire could not equal strenuous exercise with the hours usually reserved for the anticipation and consumption of Sunday lunch. Andrew Gill was much too sharp for the sluggishly predictable Richard Mosley, who may have underrated him. On the next court, Ian Salter (from a distant Arabic connection), who is a fortnight short of his seventeenth birthday, saved two match points in the fourth game and kept Steve Bateman on court for another 17 minutes.

While these two were still

debating whether Lancashire

Fencing

## Miss Martin retains her title

By a Special Correspondent

Linda Martin, aged 27, retained the de Beaumont international trophy this weekend against a strong field which included entrants from 10 countries.

Miss Martin and her fellow Britons, Ann Branston and Sue Bowes, reached the final round with four Americans and one competitor each from France, Denmark and the Netherlands. The previous round proved too much for the other British competitors: Gillian Corcoran, Clare Gandy, and Fiona McHugh.

Miss Hoad, appearing for the first time in an international final, was drawn against Carin de Brie (Netherlands), whose aggression and experience gave her the edge.

Miss Branston and Miss Martin battled on to the top four, where Miss Branston met Miss de Brie. Fighting with great determination, she was leading 10-9 when the Dutch girl strained a leg muscle and retired for a 10-minute rest. She returned with renewed strength, however, and Miss Branston, having lost her momentum, lost 9-7.

Miss Martin fared better against Ann Max-Madden (Denmark), a past winner of this event. With a series of excellent parry strokes on the shoulder and back, she defeated the Dane 15-10.

Miss Martin, who was showing fine form after a slow start, now met Miss de Brie for the title and gave a fine display of classical fencing, winning the first hit, then the second with a very fast, well-timed direct attack.

The British women got off to a perfect start with victory in an informal four-a-side match against France.



Time for a breather: Miss Martin (centre) takes stock of a winning position.

Having been a close match throughout, and with the score at 8-7 to Britain, Miss Martin was left to fight the crucial last minute against Anne Fradouce.

Miss Martin, using her speciality—a perfectly timed counter-

attack executed at lightning speed—defeated the French girl 5-0, to give Britain a 9-7 victory.

**ON BEAUMONT TROPHY:** 1. Linda Martin (GB); 2. A. de Brie (Netherlands); 3. A. Branston (UK); 4. S. Bowes (UK); 5. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 6. Fiona McHugh (UK); 7. Gillian Hoad (UK); 8. Ann Max-Madden (Denmark); 9. Linda Branston (UK); 10. Linda Martin (UK); 11. Fiona McHugh (UK); 12. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 13. Clare Gandy (UK); 14. Linda Hoad (UK); 15. Fiona McHugh (UK); 16. Linda Branston (UK); 17. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 18. Linda Hoad (UK); 19. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 20. Linda Branston (UK); 21. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 22. Linda Hoad (UK); 23. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 24. Linda Branston (UK); 25. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 26. Linda Hoad (UK); 27. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 28. Linda Branston (UK); 29. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 30. Linda Hoad (UK); 31. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 32. Linda Branston (UK); 33. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 34. Linda Hoad (UK); 35. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 36. Linda Branston (UK); 37. Gillian Corcoran (Ireland); 38. 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# Power stations at risk if NUM supports Aslef

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The train drivers' pay and pension dispute, now entering its fifth disruptive week, threatens to affect power supplies as miners' leaders meet to consider tangible support for the striking footplatemen.

Mr Raymond Buckton, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef), disclosed yesterday that he had renewed his appeal for understanding and help to other TUC-affiliated unions in a fresh round of letters sent at the weekend.

Speaking on London Weekend Television's *Weekend World*, he said: "Other unions are ready, willing and able to help us". Action by miners might put coal supplies to power stations "in jeopardy", he added, saying: "Something has to be done pretty quickly".

Mr Buckton's approach to other unions will be considered by the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers on Thursday, the second day of the latest round of Aslef mid-week walkouts. Miners in Yorkshire are already banning the use of lorries to replace the huge "merry-go-round" trains that take coal from the pits to power stations, and this is expected to become national NUM policy.

Mr Owen Briscoe, secretary of the Yorkshire miners, said last night: "We will have a letter from Ray Buckton and, bearing in mind that the support that Aslef gives us in our strike, we will adopt what is happening in Yorkshire now as national policy".

## More support than people realize

The footplatemen's leader insisted yesterday: "There is more support for our case than people realize". There had been messages of support from many trade unionists, including miners, general and municipal workers, electricians, engineers and civil servants, he said. His members were determined "to a man" to continue strike action until they received justice, though this was not just an Aslef fight. "The whole system of industrial relations in this country is in jeopardy," he argued.

By contrast Sir Peter Parker, BR chairman, speaking on the same programme, said that BR had to make the system more efficient to convince the Government that it should put more money into it. "It is

## BR could lose £80m on freight

Continued from page 1

at consumption, BR has high hopes that much will still be there to be lifted when the strike ends. But a lot is moving by road, and some of this, together with the general merchandise, could be lost to rail for good.

That poses a direct threat to "commercial railway" investment, like main line electrification, which is based on higher traffic forecasts than now seem likely.

Lord McCarthy, Mr George Doughty, former engineering union leader, and Mr Ted Cheshire, ex-managing director of Eso, have the almost impossible task of producing a report on the dispute in spite of a total boycott by Aslef.

As the train drivers and BR management appear to become even more firmly entrenched in their positions, the other two unions are becoming increasingly nervous about the long-term impact of the pay and productivity crisis that has cost the industry an estimated £100m.

## No winners at all in this battle

Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the National Union of Railways, said reports of line closures, job losses and the sale of BR assets such as seaports and hotels to the private sector are a result of the dispute, not a cause of it.

The train drivers' strike was leading the industry into a tragic disaster and the jobs of many were at stake. "They (BR) have lost a hundred million. What the hell can you expect them to do? That is the tragedy of this dispute: there are not going to be any winners at all in this battle."

He thought there were wrongs on both sides—"there are six and two thirds on this issue", but that did not indicate an unbridgeable gulf.

The Aslef leaders are continuing in their boycott of the McCarthy initiative on the ground that its terms of reference concern the 3 per cent pay rise due from January with no service concessions, including "flexible working".

Mr Buckton yesterday reiterated the view that Britain's railways could be permanently closed because of his union's action. Parts of the system would be closed anyway, but the railways as a whole were too important to be closed

On those days traffic is good up to about mid-afternoon", BR says, "but we cannot be sure what is happening on other provincial services. This is very worrying. There is an inherent strength in Inter-City that does not apply to them."

Perhaps the worst thing as the dispute enters its fifth week is that BR does not know how to stop it. It is frankly amazed at the apparent solidarity of moderate drivers over the flexible hours which are standard practice in Europe and which BR claims must be introduced now. "Without better, trainmen productivity will not get the business of the new investment, and their jobs will go anyway", a spokesman said.

"I make it a point never to discuss prices," he said, "but I do not make them just for the money."

Next year, however, he moves into the "mass-production" market. "I plan to make



A man with time on his hands

Mr George Daniels, of London, painstakingly examining a pocket watch, which it takes him a year to make. Each part is hand-made to very exacting standards, and this seems to be reflected in the price. A "relatively inexpensive" model would cost around £45,000.

"I make it a point never to discuss prices," he said, "but I do not make them just for the money."

Next year, however, he moves into the "mass-production" market. "I plan to make

six similar watches. Each will contain more than 10 years of watch-making and research, and if properly looked after, I will guarantee their accuracy for as long as the materials last—almost forever."

To date, he has completely

hand-made just a dozen pocket

watches, each with its own

individual innovation, such as a

rotating escapement to average

away all possible errors which

may occur in different positions,

and all have a needle which shows how much the

watch has been wound, and

when it needs re-winding.

Mr Daniels, aged 55, came

from a poor north London background. However, at the age of five, as his father went to work he would dismantle the alarm-clock on the mantelpiece and have it back on the shelf working, when his father returned.

Unqualified, Mr Daniels

became a watch repairer in 1947. Evening classes in

physics and maths, his worst

subjects at school, helped him

to achieve his Fellowship of

the Irish Horological Institute

in 1952. He has written exten-

sively on horology and is a

specialist consultant for

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